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Joshua THE Tench

SPECTATOR.

1742

VOL. VIII. and Last.



The TWELFTH EDITION.

DUBLIN:

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TO

William Honeycomb, Efq;

lumes of the Spectator having been Dedicated to some of the most celebrated Persons of the Age, I take leave to inscribe this Eighth and Last to you, as to a Gentleman who hath ever been ambitious of appearing in the best Company.

A 2 You

You are now wholly retired from the busy Part of Mankind, and at leisure to reflect upon your past Atchievements; for which reason, I look upon you as a Person very well qualified for a Dedication.

I may possibly disappoint my Readers, and your self too, if I do not endeavour on this occasion to make the World acquainted with your Virtues. And here, Sir, I shall not compliment you upon your Birth, Person, or Fortune, nor any other the like Persections, which you possess whether you will or no: But shall only touch upon those, which are of your own acquiring,

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Your janty Air, and eafy Motion, the Volubility of your Discourse, the Suddeness of your Laugh, the Management of your Snuff-Box, with the Whiteness of your Hands and Teeth (which have justly gained you the Envy of the most polite part of the Male World, and the Love of the greatest Beauties in the Female) are intirely to be ascribed to your own personal Genius and Application.

You are formed for these Accomplishments by a happy Turn of Nature, and have sinished

nished your self in them by the A utmost Improvements of Art. to a A Man that is defective in either own of these Qualifications (whatever The may be the fecret Ambition of other his Heart) must never hope to had make the Figure you have done, tem amongst the fashionable part of of his Species. It is therefore no Phil wonder, we see such Multitudes Hor of aspiring young Men fall short not of you in all these Beauties of hav your Character, notwithstanding Prethe Study and Practice of them imp is the whole Business of their mea Lives. But I need not tell you gar that the free and disengaged Be- you haviour of a fine Gentleman who makes as many aukward Beaux, an as the Easiness of your Favourite dot Waller hath made insipid Poets. and

AT

Art, to aim all your Charms at your either own Spouse, without further atever Thought of Mischief to any on of others of the Sex. I know you pe to had formerly a very great Condone, tempt for that Pedantick Race art of of Mortals who call themselves re no Philosophers; and yet, to your short not a Sage of them all could ies of have better acted up to their nding Precepts in one of the most them important Points of Life: I their mean in that Generous Difreyou gard of Popular Opinion, which d Be- you showed some Years ago, eman when you chose for your Wife eaux, an obscure young Woman, who ourite doth not indeed pretend to an ts. ancient Family, but has cer-Ат A 4

tainly as many Forefathers as any Lady in the Land, if she could but reckon up their men Names.

I must own I conceived very take extraordinary hopes of you from Plan the Moment that you confessed did your Age, and from eight and of forty (where you had stuck so we many Years) very ingeniously you step'd into your Grand Climac- you terick. Your Deportment has much fince been very venerable and Esta becoming. If I am rightly informed, you make a regular Appearance every Quarter-Sessions muc among your Brothers of the Quorum; and if things go on as they do, stand fair for being a Colonel of the Militia. I am told

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f she way as agreeably in the Amusetheir ments of a Country Life, as it ever did in the Gallantries of the Town: And that you now very take as much pleasure in the from Planting of young Trees, as you fessed did formerly in the cutting down and of your old Ones. In short, k fo we hear from all Hands that

Ap- AFTER having spoken thus sions much of my PATRON, I must the take the Privilege of an Author in faying fomething of my felf. I shall therefore beg leave to add, I am that I have purposely omitted

joufly you are thoroughly reconciled to mac- your dirty Acres, and have not too has much Wit to look into your own

and Estate. y in-

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being told

fetting those Marks to the End of every Paper, which appeared in my former Volumes, that you may have an Opportunity of showing Mrs. Honeycomb the Shrewdness of your Conjectures, by ascribing every Speculation to its proper Author: Though you know how often many profound Criticks in Style and Sentiments have very judiciously erred in this Particular, before they were let into the Secret. I am,

SIR,

Your most Faithful

Humble Servant,

The SPECTATOR.

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THE

SPECTATOR.

VOL. VIII.

No. 556. Friday, June, 8. 1714.

Qualis ubi in lucem coluber, mala gramina passus, Frigida sub terra tumidum quem bruma tegebat; Nunc positis novus exuviis nitidusque juventa, Lubrica convolvit sublato pectore terga Arduus ad solem, et linguis micat ore trisulcis. Virg.



PON laying down the Office of Spec-TATOR, I acquainted the World with my Defign of electing a new Club, and of opening my Mouth in it after a most folemn Manner. Both the Election and the Ceremony are now past; but not

finding it so easy as I at first imagined, to break thro' a Fifty Years Silence, I would not venture into the World under the Character of a Man who pretends to talk like other People, till I had arrived at a full Freedom of Speech.

I shall reserve for another time the History of such Club or Clubs of which I am now a Talkative but unworthy Member; and shall here give an Account of this surprising furprifing Change which has been produced in me, and which I look upon to be as remarkable an Accident as any recorded in History, fince that which happened to the Son of Cræsus, after having been many Years as much

Tongue-tied as my felf.

Upon the first opening of my Mouth, I made a Speech consisting of about half a Dozen well-turned Periods; but grew so very hoarse upon it, that for three Days together, instead of finding the use of my Tongue, I was assaid that I had quite lost it. Besides, the unusual Extension of my Muscles on this Occasion, made my Face ake on both Sides to such a Degree, that nothing but an invincible Resolution and Perseverance could have prevented me from falling back to my Monosyllables.

I afterwards made feveral Essays towards speaking; and that I might not be startled at my own Voice, which has happen'd to me more than once, I used to read aloud in my Chamber, and have often stood in the Middle of the Street to call a Coach, when I knew there was none

within hearing.

WHEN I was thus grown pretty well acquainted with my own Voice, I laid hold of all opportunities to exert it. Not caring however to speak much by my self, and to draw upon me the whole Attention of those I conversed with, I used, for some time, to walk every Morning in the Mall, and talk in Chorus with a Parcel of Frenchmen. I found my Modesty greatly relieved by the communicative Temper of this Nation, who are so very sociable, as to think they are never better Company, than when they are all opening at the same time.

I then fancied I might receive great Benefit from Female Conversation, and that I should have a Convenience of talking with the greater Freedom, when I was not under any Impediment of thinking: I therefore threw my self into an Assembly of Ladies, but could not for my Life get in a Word among them; and found that if I did not change my Company, I was in Danger of being reduced to my primitive Taciturnity.

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Bookseller to the Reader?

IN the Six hundred and thirty fer cond Spectator, the Reader will find an Account of the Rise of this Eighth and Last Volume.

I have not been able to prevail upon the several Gentlemen who were concerned in this Work, to let me acquaint the World with their Names.

Perhaps it will be unnecessary to inform the Reader, that no other Papers, which have appeared under the Title of Spectator, since the closing of this Eighth Volume, were written by any of those Gentlemen who had a Hand in this, or the former Volumes.

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Bookseller to the Renders If N rbe Six bundred and thirty for tond to streen is the Reader will and an attention - on linused of the en els force de Cornings en color corre courried in Rest of . tolor me ercir Names. Reshars is a lift be anner office yearing. new fire Render, that are other Perwere achief mayo at poured ander the The of Englance of the children and the COLF LIBERG & CLOSE CORP. CORP. son of the court our color had Elevel or this, or the former Vo-

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No. 556. The SPECTATOR.

THE Coffee-houses have ever since been my chief Places of Resort, where I have made the greatest Improvements; in order to which I have taken a particular Care never to be of the same Opinion with the Man I conversed with. I was a Tory at Button's, and a Whig at Child's; a Friend to the Englishman, or an Advocate for the Examiner, as it best served my Turn; some fancy me a great Enemy to the French King, though in reality, I only make use of him for a Help to Discourse. In short, I wrangle and dispute for Exercise; and have carried this Point so far that I was once like to have been run through the Body for making a little too free with my

In a Word, I am quite another Man to what I was.

Tam dispar sibi _____

My old Acquaintance scarce know me; nay I was asked the other Day by a Jew at Jonathan's, whether I was not related to a dumb Gentleman, who used to come to that Coffee-house? But I think I never was better pleased in my Life than about a Week ago, when, as I was battling it across the Table with a young Templar, his Companion gave him a Pull by the Sleeve, begging him to come away, for that the old Prig would talk him to Death.

BEING now a very good Proficient in Discourse, I shall appear in the World with this Addition to my Character, that my Countrymen may reap the Fruits of my new-

acquired Loquacity.

Betters.

Those who have been present at publick Disputes in the University, know that it is usual to maintain Herefies, for Argument's sake. I have heard a Man a most impudent Socinian for half an Hour, who has been an Orthodox Divine all his Life after. I have taken the same Method to accomplish my self in the Gift of Utterance, having talked above a Twelve-month, not so much for the Benefit of my Hearers as of my self. But since I have now gained the Faculty I have been so long endeavouring after, I intend to make a right Use

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THAT this last Allusion may not give my Reader a wrong Idea of my Design in this Paper, I must here inform him, that the Author of it is of no Faction, that he is a Friend to no Interests but those of Truth and Virtue, nor a Foe to any but those of Vice and Folly. Though I make more Noise in the World than I used to do, I am still resolved to act in it as an indifferent Spectator. It is not my Ambition to encrease the Number either of Whigs or Tories, but of wise and good Men, and I could heartily wish there were not Faults common to both Parties which afford me sufficient Matter to work upon, without descending to those which are peculiar to either.

IF in a Multitude of Counsellors there is Safety, we ought to think our selves the securest Nation in the World. Most of our Garrets are inhabited by Satesmen, who watch over the Liberties of their Country, and make a Shift to keep themselves from starving, by taking into their Care the Properties of their Fellow-

Subjects.

As these Politicians of both Sides have already worked the Nation into a most unnatural Ferment, I shall be so far from endeavouring to raise it to a greater Height, that on the contrary, it shall be the chief Tendency of my Papers, to inspire my Countrymen with a mutual Good-will and Benevolence. Whatever Faults either Party may be guilty of, they are rather inslamed than cured by those Reproaches, which they cast upon one another. The most likely Method of rectifying any Man's Conduct, is, by recommending to him the Principles of Truth and Honour, Religion and Virtue; and so long as he acts with an Eye to these Principles, whatever Party he is of, he cannot fail of being a good Englishman, and a Lover of his Country.

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As for the Persons concerned in this Work, the Names of all of them, or at least of such as desire it, shall be published hereaster: Till which time I must entreat the courteous Reader to suspend his Curiosity, and rather to consider what is written, than who they are that write it.

HAVING thus adjusted all necessary Preliminaries with my Reader, I shall not trouble him with any more prefatory Discourses, but proceed in my old Method, and entertain him with Speculations on every useful Subject that falls in my Way.

No. 557. Monday, June 21.

Quippe domum timet ambiguam, Tyriosque bilingues.
Virg.

THERE is nothing, fays Plato, so delightful, as the hearing or the speaking of Truth. For this Reason there is no Conversation so agreeable as that of the Man of Integrity, who hears without any Intention to betray, and speaks without any Intention to deceive:

AMONG all the Accounts which are given of Cato, I do not remember one that more redounds to his Honour than the following Passage related by Plutarch. As an Advocate was pleading the Cause of his Client before one of the Prætors, he could only produce a fingle Witness in a Point where the Law required the Tefimony of two Persons; upon which the Advocate infifted on the Integrity of that Person whom he had produced: but the Prætor told him, That where the Law required two Witnesses he would not accept of one, tho' it were Cato himself. Such a Speech from a Person who fat at the Head of a Court of Justice, while Cato was still living, shews us, more than a thousand Examples, the high Reputation this great Man had gained among his Contemporaries upon the Account of his Sincerity.

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WHEN fuch an inflexible Integrity is a little softened and qualified by the Rules of Conversation and Goodbreeding, there is not a more shining Virtue in the whole Catalogue of Social Duties. A Man however ought to take great Care not to polish himself out of his Veracity, nor to refine his Behaviour to the Prejudice of his Virtue.

This Subject is exquisitely treated in the most elegant Sermon of the great British Preacher. I shall beg Leave to transcribe out of it two or three Sentences, as a proper Introduction to a very curious Letter, which I shall make the chief Entertainment of this Speculation.

THE old English Plainness and Sincerity, that generous Integrity of Nature, and Honesty of Disposition,

which always argues true Greatness of Mind, and is usually accompanied with undaunted Courage and Re-

folution, is in a great Measure lost among us.

'THE Dialect of Conversation is now-a-days so swelled with Vanity and Compliment, and so surfeited (as
I may say) of Expressions of Kindness and Respect,
that if a Man that lived an Age or two ago should return into the World again, he would really want a

Dictionary to help him to understand his own Lan-

Phrase in fashion; and would hardly, at first, believe at what a low Rate the highest Strains and Expres-

fions of Kindness imaginable do commonly pass in current Payment; and when he should come to understand

it, it would be a great while before he could bring himself with a good Countenance and a good Con-

fcience, to converse with Men upon equal Terms and

in their own Way.

I have by me a Letter which I look upon as a great Curiofity, and which may ferve as an Exemplification to the foregoing Passage, cited out of this most excellent Prelate. It is said to have been written in King Charles II's Reign by the Ambassador of Bantam, a little after his Arrival in England.

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Master, HE People, where I now am, have Tongues further from their Hearts than from London to Bantam, and thou knowest the Inhabitants of one of these Places do not know what is done in the other. They call thee and thy Subjects Barbarians, because we speak what we mean; and account themselves a civilized People, because they speak one thing and mean another: Truth they call Barbarity, and Falshood Politeness. Upon my first landing, one who was sent from the King of this Place to meet me, told me, That be was extremely forry for the Storm I had met with just before my Arrival. I was troubled to hear him grieve and afflich himself upon my Account; but in less than a Quarter of an Hour he smiled, and was as merry as if nothing had happened. Another who came with him told me by my Interpreter, He should be glad to do me any Service that lay in his Power. Upon which I desir'd him to carry one of my Port-mantuas for me, but instead of ferving me according to his Promise, he laughed, and bid another do it. I lodged, the first Week, at the House of one, who defired me to think my felf at home, and to consider his House as my own. Accordingly, I the next Morning began to knock down one of the Walls of it, in order to let in the fresh Air, and had packed up some of the Houshold-Goods, of which I intended to have made thee a Present: But the false Varlet no sooner faw me falling to Work, but he fent Word to defire me to give over, for that he would have no fuch Doings in his House. I had not been long in this Nation, before I was told by one, for whom I had asked a certain Favour from the Chief of the King's Servants, whom they here call the Lord-Treasurer, That I had eternally obliged him. I was so surpriz'd at his Gratitude, that I could not forbear faying, What Service is there which one Man can do for another, that can oblige him to all Eternity! However I only asked him for my Reward that he would lend me his eldest Daughter during my Stay in this Country; but I quickly found that he was as treacherous as the rest of his Countrymen. AT

' AT my first going to Court, one of the great Men almost put me out of Countenance, by asking ten thou-' fand Pardons of me for only treading by Accident upon my Toe. They call this kind of Lyea Compliment; for when they are Civil to a great Man they tell him · Untruths, for which thou wouldest order any of thy Of ficers of State to receive an hundred Blows upon his Foot. I do not know how I shall negotiate any thing with his People, fince there is fo little Credit to be given to them. When I go to fee the King's Scribe, I am go " nerally told that he is not athome, tho' perhaps I faw him go into his House almost the very Moment before "Thou wouldest fancy that the whole Nation are Physicians, for the first Question they always ask me, is " How I do: I have this Question put to me above a hundred times a Day. Nay, they are not only thus in quisitive after my Health, but wish it in a more so lemn Manner, with a full Glass in their Hands, every ' time I fit with them at Table, tho' at the same time they would perfuade me to drink their Liquors in fuci ' Quantities as I have found by Experience will make m fick. They often pretend to pray for thy Health all in the fame Manner; but I have more Reason to exped it from the Goodness of thy Constitution, than the Sin cerity of their Wishes. May thy Slave escape in Safet from this doubled-tongued Race of Men, and live to lay himself once more at thy Feet in the Royal City of Bantam.



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Qui fit, Macenas, ut nemo, quam fibi sortem Seu ratio dederit, seu fors objecerit, illa Contentus vivat: laudet diversa sequentes? O Fortunati mercatores, gravis annis Miles ait, multo jam fractus membra labore! Contra mercator, navim jactantibus austris, Militia est potior. Quid enim? concurritur? boræ Memento cita mors venit, aut victoria læta. Agricolam laudat juris legumque peritus, Sub galli cantum consultor ubi ostia pulsat. Ille, datis vadibus, qui rure extractus in urbem eft, Solos felices viventes clamat in urbe. Cætera de genere boc (adeo funt multa) loquacem Delassare valent Fabium. Ne te morer, audi Quo rem deducam. Si quis Deus, en ego dicat. Jam faciam quod vultis: eris tu, qui modo miles, Mercator: tu consultus modo rusticus. Hinc vos, Vos binc mutatis discedite partibus. Eja, Quid ftatis ? Nolint. Atque licet effe beatis .- Hor.

T is a celebrated Thought of Socrates, that if all the Misfortunes of Mankind were cast into a publick Stock, in order to be equally distributed among the sole Species, those who now think themselves the most thappy, would prefer the Share they are already posses'd before that which would fall to them by such a Division. Horace has carried this Thought a great deal further in the Motto of my Paper, which implies that the Hardines or Misfortunes we lye under, are more easy to us thin those of any other Person would be, in case we could sange Conditions with him.

As I was ruminating on these two Remarks, and ted in my Elbow-Chair, I insensibly fell asleep; when, a sudden, methought there was a Proclamation made Jupiter, that every Mortal should bring in his Griefs

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e in Safety nd live to loyal City and Calamities, and throw them together in a Heap. There was a large Plain appointed for this Purpose. I took my Stand in the Center of it, and saw with a great deal of Pleasure the whole human Species marching one after another, and throwing down their several Loads, which immediately grew up into a prodigious Mountain, that seemed to rise above the Clouds.

THERE was a certain Lady of a thin airy Shape, who was very active in this Solemnity. She carried a magnifying Glass in one of her Hands, and was cloathed in a loose flowing Robe, embroidered with several Figures of Fiends and Spectres, that discovered themselve in a thousand chimerical Shapes, as her Garment hovered in the Wind. There was something wild and distracted in her Looks. Her Name was FANCY. She led up every Mortal to the appointed Place, after having very officiously assisted him in making up his Pack, and laying it upon his Shoulders. My Heart melted within me to see my Fellow-Creatures groaning under their respective Burthens, and to consider that prodigious Bulk of human Calamities which lay before me.

THERE were however feveral Persons who gave me great Diversion upon this Occasion. I observed one bringing in a Fardel very carefully concealed under as old embroidered Cloak, which, upon his throwing is into the Heap, I discovered to be Poverty. Another, after a great deal of Pussing, threw down his Luggage; which, upon examining, I found to be his Wife.

THERE were Multitudes of Lovers fadled with very whimfical Burthens composed of Darts and Flames but what was very odd, tho' they fighed as if their Hearts would break under these Bundles of Calamities they could not perfwade themselves to cast them into the Heap, when they came up to it; but after a few faint Efforts shook their Heads and marched away, a heavy loaden as they came. I faw Multitudes of old Women throw down their Wrinkles, and feveral young Then ones who stripped themselves of a tawny Skin. were very great Heaps of red Nofes, large Lips, and rufty Teeth. The Truth of it is, I was furpriz'd to it the greatest Part of the Mountain made up of bodily Deformities. Observing one advancing towards the Heap

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Heap with a larger Cargo than ordinary upon his Back. I found upon his near Approach, that it was only a natural Hump, which he disposed of, with great Joy of Heart, among this Collection of human Miseries. There were likewise Distempers of all Sorts, tho' I could not but observe, that there were many more imaginary than real. One little Packet I could not but take Notice of, which was a Complication of all the Difeases incident to human Nature, and was in the Hand of a great many fine People: This was call'd the Spleen. But what most of all furpriz'd me, was a Remark I made, that there was not a fingle Vice or Folly thrown into the whole Heap: At which I was very much aftonished, having concluded within my felf, that every one would take this Opportunity of getting rid of his Passions, Prejudices and Frailties.

I took Notice in particular of a very profligate Fellow, who I did not question came loaden with his Crimes, but upon searching into his Bundle, I found that instead of throwing his Guilt from him, he had only laid down his Memory. He was followed by another worthless Rogue who stung away his Modesty instead of his Ignorance.

When the whole Race of Mankind had thus cast their Burdens, the Phantome which had been so busy on this Occasion, seeing me an idle Spectator of what passed, approached towards me. I grew uneasy at her Presence, when of a sudden she held her magnifying Glass full before my Eyes. I no sooner saw my Face in it, but was startled at the Shortness of it, which now appeared to me in its utmost Aggravation. The immoderate Breadth of the Features made me very much out of Humour with my own Countenance, upon which I threw it from me like a Mask. It happened very luckily, that one who stood by me had just before thrown down his Visage, which, it seems, was too long for him. It was indeed extended to a most shameful length; I believe the very Chin was,

modestly speaking, as long as my whole Face. We

had both of us an Opportunity of mending our felves,

and all the Contributions being now brought in, every

Man was at Liberty to exchange his Misfortune for those of another Person. But as there arose many new Incidents in the Sequel of my Vision, I shall referve them for the Subject of my next Paper.

Friday, June 25. No. 559.

Quid causæ est, merito quin illis Jupiter ambas Iratus buccas inflet: neque se fore postbac Tam facilem dicat, votis ut præbeat aurem?

I N my last Paper, I gave my Reader a Sight of that Mountain of Miseries, which was made up of those feveral Calamities that inflict the Minds of Men. I faw, with unspeakable Pleasure, the whole Species thus delivered from its Sorrows: though at the fame time, as we stood round the Heap, and surveyed the feveral Materials of which it was composed, there was scarce a Mortal in this vast Multitude, who did not discover what he thought Pleasures and Blessings of Life; and wonder'd how the Owners of them ever came to look upon them as Burdens and Grievances.

AS we were regarding very attentively this Confufion of Miseries, this Chaos of Calamity, Jupiter issued out a fecond Proclamation, that every one was now at Liberty to exchange his Affliction, and to return to his Habitation with any fuch other Bundle as should be deli-

vered to him.

UPON this, FANCY began again to bestir her felf, and parcelling out the whole Heap with incredible Activity, recommended to every one his particular

Packet.

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Packet. The Hurry and Confusion at this Time was not or those to be expressed. Some Observations, which I made upon new Inthe Occasion, I shall communicate to the Publick. A vee them nerable grey headed Man, who had laid down the Cholick. and who I found wanted an Heir to his Estate, snatched up an undutiful Son, that had been thrown into the Heap by his angry Father: The graceless Youth, in less than a quarter of an Hour, pulled the old Gentleman by the Beard, and had like to have knocked his Brains out; fo that meeting the true Father, who came towards him in a Fit of the Gripes, he begg'd him to take his Son again, and give him back his Cholick; but they were incapable either of them to recede from the Choice they had made. A poor Galley-flave, who had thrown down his Chains took up the Gout in their stead, but made such

> THE Female World were very bufy among themselves in bartering for Features; one was trucking a Lock of grey Heirs for a Carbuncle, another was making over a short Waist for a Pair of round Shoulders; and a third cheapning a bad Face for a lost Reputation: But on all these Occasions, there was not one of them who did not think the new Blemish, as soon as she had got it into her Possession, much more disagreeable than the old one. I made the same Observation on every other Misfortune or Calamity, which every one in the Assembly brought upon himself in lieu of what he had parted with; whether it be that all the Evils which befal us are in some measure suited and proportioned to our Strength, or that every Evil becomes more supportable by our being accustomed to it, I shall not determine.

> Wry Faces, that one might easily perceive he was no great Gainer by the Bargain. It was pleasant enough to see the several Exchanges that were made, for Sickness against Poverty, Hunger against want of Appetite, and

I could not for my Heart forbear pitying the poor hump-back'd Gentleman mentioned in the former Paper, who went off a very well-shap'd Person with a Stone in his Bladder; nor the fine Gentleman who had Arrock up this Bargain with him, that limped through a Val. VIII.

Hor.

Care against Pain.

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of that of those of Men. Species he same eyed the did not sings of yer came

er issued now at n to his l be deli-

estir her incrediparticular Packet. whole Assembly of Ladies, who used to admire him, with compo

a Pair of Shoulders peeping over his Head.

I must not omit my own particular Adventure. My Friend with the long Visage had no sooner taken upon him my fhort Face, but he made fuch a grotefque Figure in it, that as I looked upon him I could not forbeat laughing at my felf, infomuch that I put my own Face out of Countenance. The poor Gentleman was fo fenfible of the Ridicule, that I found he was ashamed of what he had done: On the other fide I found that I myfelf had no great Reason to triumph, for as I went to touch m Forehead I missed the Place, and clapped my Finger up on my upper Lip: Besides, as my Nose was exceeding prominent, I gave it two or three unlucky Knocks as was playing my Hand about my Face, and aiming a fome other Part of it. I faw two other Gentlemen by me, who were in the same ridiculous Circumstances These had made a foolish Swop between a Couple of thick bandy Legs, and two long Trapsticks that had m Calfs to them. One of these looked like a Man walking upon Stilts, and was fo lifted up into the Air above h ordinary Height, that his Head turned round with it while the other made such aukward Circles, as he at tempted to walk, that he scarce knew how to move for ward upon his new Supporters: Observing him to be pleasant kind of Fellow, I stuck my Cane in the Ground and told him I would lay him a Bottle of Wine that h did not march up to it on a Line, that I drew for his in a Quarter of an Hour.

The Heap was at last distributed among the tweeness, who made a most piteous Sight as they wander up and down under the Pressure of their several Eurther The whole Plain was silled with Murmurs and Complaint Groans and Lamentations. Jupiter at length taking Compassion on the poor Mortals, ordered them a second time to lay down their Loads, with a Design to give every of his own again. They discharged themselves with a greedeal of Pleasure, after which the Phantom, who have led them into such gross Delusions, was commanded disappear. There was fent in her stead a Goddess of quite different Figure: Her Motions were steady at

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0.559 No.560. The SPECTATOR.

im, with composed, and her Aspect serious but cheerful. very now and then cast her Eyes towards Heaven, and fixed them upon Jupiter: Her Name was PATIENCE. re. My She had no fooner placed her felf by the Mount of Sorken upon rows, but, what I thought very remarkable, the whole ue Figure Heap funk to fuch a Degree, that it did not appear a t forbear third Part fo big as it was before. She afterwards returned every Man his own proper Calamity, and teaching him how to bear it in the most commodious Manner, he marched off with it contentedly, being very well pleased that he had not been left to his own Choice, as to the kind of Evils which fell to his Lot.

BESIDES the feveral Pieces of Morality to be drawn out of this Vision, I learnt from it never to repine at my own Misfortunes, or to envy the Happiness of another, fince it is impessible for any Man to form a right Judgment of his Neighbour's Sufferings; for which Reason alfo I have determined never to think too lightly of another's Complaints, but to regard the Sorrows of my Fellow-creatures with Sentiments of Humanity and

Compassion.

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Monday, June 28. No. 560.

Verba intermissa retentat.

Ov. Met.

ERY one has heard of the famous Conjurer, who, according to the Opinion of the Vulgar, has studied himself dumb; for which Reason, as it is believed, he delivers out all his Oracles in Writing. Be that as it will, the blind Tirefias was not more famous in Greece, than this dumb Artist has been, for some Years last past, in the Cities of London and Westminster. Thus much for , who ha the profound Gentleman who honours me with the following Epistle.

From my Cell, June 24, 1714. SIR. DEING informed that you have lately got the Use · D of your Tongue, I have some Thoughts of sol-· lowing your Example, that I may be a Fortune-teller properly speaking. I am grown weary of my Taciturnity, and having ferved my Country many Years under the Title of the dumb Doctor, I shall now prophely by Word of Mouth, and (as Mr. Lee fays of the · Magpie, who you know was a great Fortune-teller a-" mong the Ancients) chatter Futurity. I have hitherto chosen to receive Questions and return Answers in Writing, that I might avoid the Tediousness and Trouble of Debates, my Querists being generally of a " Humour to think, that they have never Predictions e. onough for their Money. In thort, Sir, my Case has · been fomething like that of those discreet Animals the Monkeys, who, as the Indians tell us, can speak if they would, but purposely avoid it, that they may not be made to work. I have hitherto gained a Livelihood by holding my Tongue, but shall now open my Mouth in order to fill it. If I appear a little Word-bound in my first Solutions and Responses, I hope it will not be imputed to any Want of Forefight, but to the long · Disuse of Speech. I doubt not by this Invention to · have all my former Customers over again; for if I have · promised any of them Lovers or Husbands, Riches or good Luck, it is my Defign to confirm to them, viva · voce, what I have already given them under my Hand. If you will honour me with a Vifit, I will compli-· ment you with the first opening of my Mouth, and if · you please you may make an entertaining Dialogue out of the Conversation of two dumb Men. Excuse this "Trouble, worthy Sir, from one who has been a long · Time

Your filent Admirer,

Cornelius Agrippa.

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No. 560. The SPECTATOR.

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I have received the following Letter, or rather Billetdoux, from a pert young Baggage, who congratulates with me upon the same Occasion.

Dear Mr. Prate-apace,

I A M a Member of a Female Society who call our felves the Chit-chat Club, and am ordered by the whole Sisterhood to congratulate you upon the Use of your Tongue. We have all of us a mighty Mind to hear you talk, and if you will take your Place among us for an Evening, we have unanimously agreed to allow you one Minute in ten, without Interruption.

Iam, SIR,

Your humble Servant.

S. T.

P.S. 'You may find us at my Lady Betty Clack's, who will leave Orders with her Porter, that if an elderly Gentleman, with a short Face, enquires for her, he shall be admitted and no Questions ask'd.

As this particular Paper shall consist wholly of what I have received from my Correspondents, I shall fill up the remaining Part of it with other congratulatory Letters of the same Nature.

SIR, Oxford, June 25. 1714.

WE are here wonderfully pleased with the Opening of your Mouth, and very frequently open ours in Approbation of your Design, especially since we find you are resolved to preserve your Taciturnity as to all Party-matters. We do not question but you are as great an Orator as Sir Hudibras, of whom the Poet sweetly sings,

His Mouth, but out there flew a Trope.

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of Tully's Orations, among the Archives of the University; for we all agree with you, that there is not a more remarkable Assident recorded in History, fine

a more remarkable Accident recorded in History, fine that which happened to the Son of Craefus, nay, I be

lieve you might have gone higher, and have added Balaam's Ass. We are impatient to see more of your

Productions, and expect what Words will next fall from you, with as much Attention as those, who were

fet to watch the speaking Head which Friar Bacon for merly erected in this Place. We are,

Worthy SIR,

Your most humble Servants,

B. R. T. D. &c.

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Monest Spec.

Middle Temple, June 24.

I AM very glad to hear that thou beginnest to prate;
and find, by thy Yesterday's Vision, thou art is
used to it, that thou canst not forbear talking in thy
Sleep. Let me only advise thee to speak like othe
Men, for I am afraid thou wilt be very queer, if thos
dost not intend to use the Phrases in Fashion, as thos
callest them in thy second Paper. Hast thou a Mini
to pass for a Bantamite, or to make us all Quakers? I
do assure thee, dear Spec. I am not polished out a
my Veracity, when I subscribe my self,

Thy constant Admirer,

and bumble Servant,

Frank Townly

Wednesday



No. 561. Wednesday, June 30.

—Paulatim abolere Sichæum Incipit, & vivo tentat prævertere amore Jampridem resides animos desuetaque corda. Virg.

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I A M a tall, broad-shoulder'd, impudent, black Fellow, and, as I thought, every way qualified for a rich Widow: But, after having tried my Fortune for above three Years together, I have not been able to get one single Relict in the Mind. My first Attacks were generally successful, but always broke off as soon as they came to the Word Settlement.

Though I have not improved my Fortune this way,
I have my Experience, and have learnt several Se-

crets which may be of Use to those unhappy Gentlemen, who are commonly distinguished by the Name

of Widow-hunters, and who do not know that this Tribe of Women are, generally speaking, as much up-

on the Catch as themselves. I shall here communicate to you the Mysteries of a certain semale Cabal of this

Order, who call themselves the Widow-club. This

Club confifts of nine experienced Dames, who take their Places once a Week round a large oval Table.

'I. Mrs. President is a Person who has disposed of six Husbands, and is now determined to take a seventh; being of Opinion that there is as much Virtue in the Touch of a seventh Husband as of a seventh

' Son. Her Comrades are as follow,

· II. Mrs. Snapp, who has four Jointures by four different Bed-fellows, of four different Shires. She is

' at present upon the Point of Marriage with a Middle-' fex Man, and is said to have an Ambition of extend-

ing her Possessions through all the Counties in England, on this Side the Trent.

'III: Mrs. Medlar, who after two Husbands and a Gallant, is now wedded to an old Gentleman of

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· Sixty.

' VIII. Deborah Conquest. The Case of this Lady is

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fomething particular. She is the Relict of Sir Sampfon Conquest, some time Justice of the Quorum. Sir Sampson was seven Foot high, and two Foot in Breadth from the Tip of one Shoulder to the other. He had married three Wives, who all of them died in Child-bed. This terrified the whole Sex, who none of them durst venture on Sir Sampson. At length Mrs. Deborab undertook him, and gave so good an Account of him, that in three Years Time she very fairly laid him out, and measured his Length upon the Ground. This Exploit has gained her so great a Reputation in the Club, that they have added Sir Sampson's three Victories to hers, and give her the Merit of a fourth Widowhood; and she takes her

· Honey-moon.

Place accordingly.
VIII. The Widow Wildfire, Relict of Mr. John
Wildfire, Fox-hunter, who broke his Neck over a fix
Bar Gate. She took his Death fo much to Heart,
that it was thought it would have put an End to her

that it was thought it would have put an End to her Life, had she not diverted her Sorrows by receiving

the Addresses of a Gentleman in the Neighbourhood, who made Love to her in the second Month of her Widowhood. This Gentleman was discarded in a Fort-

* night for the Sake of a young Templer, who had the

No. 561. The SPECTATOR. · Possession of her for fix Weeks after, till he was beaten out by a broken Officer, who likewife gave up his Place to a Gentleman at Court. The Courtier was as short-liv'd a Favourite as his Predecessors, but had the Pleasure to see himself succeeded by a long · Series of Lovers, who followed the Widow Wildfire to the 37th Year of her Age, at which Time there ensued a Cessation of ten Years, when John Felt, · Haberdasher, took it in his Head to be in love with · her, and it is thought will very fuddenly carry her off. ' IX. The last is pretty Mrs. Runnet, who broke her first Husband's Heart before she was Sixteen, at which · Time she was entered of the Club, but soon after left it. upon Account of a Second, whom the made to quick a · Dispatch of, that she returned to her Seat in less than a Twelvemonth. This young Matron is looked upon as the most rising Member of the Society, and will probably be in the President's Chair before she dies. 'THESE Ladies upon their first Institution, re-

of folved to give the Pictures of their deceased Husbands to the Club-Room, but two of them bringing in their Dead at full Length, they cover'd all the Walls; Upon which they came to a fecond Resolution, that

every Matron should give her own Picture, and set

it round with her Husband's in Miniature.

" As they have most of them the Misfortune to be troubled with the Cholick, they have a noble Cellar of Cordials and strong Waters. When they grow " Maudlin, they are very apt to commemorate their former Partners with a Tear. But ask them which of their " Husbands they condole, they are not able to tell you, and discover plainly that they do not weep fo much for the Loss of a Husband, as for the Want of one.

'THE principal Rule by which the whole Society are to govern themselves, is this, To cry up the Pleafures of a fingle Life upon all Occasions, in Order to deter the rest of their Sex from Marriage, and engross the whole Male World to themselves.

'THEY are obliged, when any one makes Love to a Member of the Society, to communicate his

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Sir

his Reputation, Person, Fortune, and good 'Humour: and if they find him qualified for a Sister of the

"Club, they lay their Heads together how to make him fure. By this Means they are acquainted with

all the Widow-hunters about Town, who often afford them great Diversion. There is an honest Irih

"Gentleman, it feems, who knows nothing of this Society, but at different Times has made Love to the

whole Club.

22

'THEIR Conversation often turns upon their for-" mer Husbands, rand it is very diverting to hear them relate their feveral Arts and Stratagems, with which they amused the Jealous, pacified the Cholerick, or " wheedled the good-natured Man, 'till, at last to use the Club Phrase, They sent him out of the House with bis Heels foremost.

· THE Politicks, which are most cultivated by this Society of She-Machiavils, relate chiefly to these two

Points, how to treat a Lover, and how to manage an · Husband. As for the first Set of Artificers, they are too

numerous to come within the Compass of your Paper, and shall therefore be resolved for a second Letter.

'THE Management of an Husband is built upon the following Doctrines, which are univerfally affented to by the whole Club. Not to give him his Head at

first. Not to allow him too great Freedoms and Fa-

' miliarities. Not to be treated by him like a raw · Girl, but as a Woman that knows the World. Not

to lessen any Thing of her former Figure. To cele-

brate the Generofity, or any other Virtue, of a deceased Husband, which she would recommend to his

· Succeffor. To turn away all his old Friends and Ser-

vants, that she may have the dear Man to herself.

"To make him difinherit the undutiful Children of any

former Wife. Never to be thoroughly convinced of his Affection, 'till he has made over to her all his

Goods and Chattels.

'AFTER fo long a Letter, I am, without more · Ceremony,

Your humble Servant, &c.

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No. 562. Friday, July 2.

- Præsens, absens, ut sies.

Ter.

It is a bard and nice Subject for a Monto speak of himfelf, says Cowley; it grates his own Heart to say any thing of Disparagement, and the Reader's Ears to hear any thing of Praise from him. Let the Tenour of his Discourse be what it will upon this Subject, it generally proceeds from Vanity. An ostentatious Man will rather relate a Blunder or an Absurdity he has committed, than be debarred from talking of his own dear Person.

Some very great Writers have been guilty of this Fault. It is observed of Tully in particular, that his Works run very much in the first Person, and that he takes all Occasions of doing himself Justice. ' Does ' he think, fays Brutus, that his Confulship deserves ' more Applause than by putting Cefar to Death, because I am not perpetually talking of the Ides of · March, as he is of the Nones of December? I need not acquaint my learned Reader, that in the Ides of March, Brutus destroyed Cafar, and that Cicero quashed the Conspiracy of Catiline in the Calends of December. How shocking soever this great Man's talking of himfelf might have been to his Contemporaries, I must confess I am never better pleased than when he is on this Subject. Such Openings of the Heart give a Man a thorough Infight into his personal Character, and illustrate several Passages in the History of his Life; Befides, that there is some little Pleasure in discovering the Infirmity of a great Man, and feeing how the Opinion he has of himself agrees with what the World entertains of him.

THE Gentlemen of Port-Royal, who were more eminent for their Learning and their Humility than any other in France, banish'd the Way of speaking in the first Person out of all their Works, as arising from

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Friday

Vain-Glory and Self-Conceit. To shew their particular Aversion to it, they branded this Form of Writing with the Name of an Egotism; a Figure not to be found

among the antient Rhetoricians.

THE most violent Egotism which I have met with in the Course of my Reading, is that of Cardinal Wolsey, Ego & rex meus, I and my King; as perhaps the most eminent Egotism that ever appeared in the World, was Montagne the Author of the celebrated Essays. lively old Gascon has woven all his bodily Infirmities into his Works, and after having spoken of the Faults or Virtues of any other Man, immediately publishes to the World how it flands with himself in that Particular. Had he kept his own Counsel he might have passed for a much better Man, though perhaps he would not have been fo diverting an Author. The Title of an Essay promises perhaps a Discourse upon Virgil or Julius Cafar; but when you look into it, you are fure to meet with more upon Monfieur Montagne, than of either of them. The young Scaliger, who feems to have been no great Friend to this Author, after having acquainted the World that his Father fold Herrings, adds thefe Words; La grande fadaise de Montagne, qui a escrit qu'il aimoit mieux le vin blanc ____ que diable a-t-on à fair de sçavoir ce qu'il aime ? For my Part, says Montagne, I am a great Lover of your White Wines --What the Devil fignifies it to the Publick, fays Scaliger, whether he is a Lover of White Wines or Red Wines?

I cannot here forbear mentioning a Tribe of Egotists for whom I have always had a mortal Aversion, I mean the Authors of Memoirs, who are never mentioned in any Works but their own, and who raise all their Pro-

ductions out of this fingle Figure of Speech.

Most of our modern Prefaces savour very strongly of the Egotism. Every insignificant Author sancies it of Importance to the World, to know that he writ his Book in the Country, that he did it to pass away some of his idle Hours, that it was published at the Importunity of Friends, or that his natural Temper, Studies or Conversations, directed him to the Choice of his Subject.

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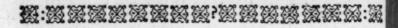
Such Informations cannot but be highly improving to the Reader.

In Works of Humour, especially when a Man writes under a sictitious Personage, the talking of one's self may give some Diversion to the Publick; but I would advise every other Writer never to speak of himself, unless there be something very considerable in his Character: Tho' I am sensible this Rule will be of very little Use in the World, because there is no Man who sancies his Thoughts worth publishing, that does not look

upon himself as a considerable Person.

I shall close this Paper with a Remark upon such as are Egotists in Conversation: These are generally the vain or shallow Part of Mankind. People being naturally full of themselves when they have nothing else in them. There is one kind of Egotists which is very common in the World, tho' I do not remember that any Writer has taken Notice of them ; I mean those empty conceited Fellows, who repeat as Sayings of their own, or some of their particular Friends, several Jests which were made before they were born, and which every one who has conversed in the World has heard an hundred times over. A forward young Fellow of my Acquaintance was very guilty of this Absurdity: He would always be laying a new Scene for fome old Piece of Wit, and telling us, That as he and Jack such-a-one were together, one or t'other of them had fuch a Conceit on fuch an Occasion; upon which he would laugh very heartily, and wonder the Company did not join with him. When his Mirth was over, I have often reprehended him out of Terence, Tuumne, obsecro te, boc dictum erat? vetus credidi. But finding him still incorrigible, and having a Kindness for the young Coxcomb, who was otherwise a good natured Fellow, I recommended to his Perusal the Oxford and Cambridge Jests, with several little Pieces of Pleasantry of the same Nature. Upon the reading of them, he was under no small Confusion to find that all his lokes

Jøkes had passed through several Editions, and that what he thought was a new Conceit, and had appropriated to his own Use, had appeared in Print before he or his ingenious Friends were ever heard of. This had so good an Essect upon him, that he is content at present to pass for a Man of plain Sense in his ordinary Conversation, and is never facetious but when he knows his Company.



No. 563. Monday, July 5.

Magni nominis Umbra.

Lucan.

I Shall entertain my Reader with two very curious Letters. The first of them comes from a chimerical Person, who I believe never writ to any Body before.

I Am descended from the antient Family of the Blanks, a Name well known among all Men of Business. It is always read in those little white Spaces of Writing which want to be filled up, and which for that Reason are called blank Spaces, as of right appertaining to our Family: For I consider myself as the Lord of a Manor, who lays his Claim to all Wastes or Spots of Ground that are unappropriated. I am a near Kinsman to John a Stiles and John a Nokes; and they, I am told, came in with the Conqueror. I am mentioned of the rin both Houses of Parliament than any other Person in Great Britain, my Name is written, or more properly speaking, not written, thus,

I am one that can turn my Hand to every thing, and appear under any Shape whatsoever. I can make myself Man, Woman, or Child. I am sometimes metamorphosed into a Year of our Lord, a Day of the Month, or an Hour of the Day. I very often represent

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present a Sum of Money, and am generally the first Subsidy that is granted to the Crown. I have now and then supplied the Place of several Thousands of Land Soldiers, and have as frequently been employed in the Sea Service.

Now, Sir, my Complaint is this, that I am only made use of to serve a Turn, being always discarded as soon as a proper Person is sound out to fill up my Place.

'IF you have ever been in the Play-house before the Curtain rises, you see most of the Front Boxes silled with Men of my Family, who forthwith turn out and resign their Stations upon the Appearance of those for whom they are retained.

Bur the most illustrious Branch of the Blanks are those who are planted in high Posts, till such time as

Persons of greater Consequence can be found out to sup ply them. One of these Blanks is equally qualified for all

Offices; he can serve in Time of Need for a Soldier, a Politician, a Lawyer, or what you please. I have

known in my Time many a Brother Blank that has been born under a lucky Planet, heap up great Riches, and

fwell into a Man of Figure and Importance, before the

Grandees of his Party could agree among themselves which of them should step into his Place. Nay, I

have known a Blank continue so long in one of these vacant Posts, (for such it is to be reckoned all the

Time a Blank is in it) that he has grown too formidable and dangerous to be removed.

But to return to myself. Since I am so very commodious a Person, and so very necessary in all

well regulated Governments, I defire you will take my Case into Consideration, that I may be no longer made a Tool of, and only employed to stop a Gap.

Such Usage without a Pun, makes me look very blank.

For all which Reasons I humbly recommend myself to your Protection, and am

Your most obedient Servant, Blank.

P. S. 'I herewith fend you a Paper, drawn up by a Country Attorney employed by two Gentlemen, whose 'Names

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ng, and make netimes Day of often represent transacting. I heard him call it a Blank Instrument, and read it after the following Manner. You may fee by this fingle Instance of what Use I am to the busy

World.

' I T. Blank, Efg; of Blank Town, in the County of Blank, do own myfelf indebted in the Sum of Blank,

to Goodman Blank, for the Service he did me in procu-* ring for me the Goods following, Blank: And I do here-

by promise the said Blank to pay unto him the said Sum of Blank, on the Blank Day of the Month of Blank next

ensuing, under the Penalty and Forfeiture of Blank.

I shall take Time to consider the Case of this my imaginary Correspondent, and in the mean while shall prefent my Readers with a Letter which feems to come from a Person that is made of Flesh and Blood.

Good Mr. SPECTATOR,

I Am married to a very honest Gentleman that is · L exceeding good natured, and at the same time very cholerick. There is no flanding before him when he is in a Passion; but as soon as it is over he is the best-humour'd Creature in the World. he is angry, he breaks all the China Ware that chances

to lie in his Way, and the next Morning fends me in twice as much as he broke the Day before. I may

· positively say, that he has broke me a Child's Fortune fince we were first marry'd together.

" As foon as he begins to fret, down goes every thing that is within Reach of his Cane. I once prevailed upon him never to carry a Stick in his Hand, but " this faved me nothing; for upon seeing me do some. thing that did not please him, he kicked down a great Jar, that cost him above ten Pound but the

· Week before. I then laid the Fragments together in a Heap, and gave him his Cane again, desiring him that if he chanced to be in Anger, he would

fpend his passion upon the China that was broke to

his Hand: But the very next Day upon my giving a wrong

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T is t duing I end Actions Regard t own priv my felf, fuffer the nation,] Character

make his

wrong Message to one of the Servants, he slew into fuch a Rage, that he swept down a dozen Tea-

Dishes, which, to my Misfortune, stood very con-

· venient for a Side Blow.

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'I then remov'd all my China into a Room which he never frequents; but I got nothing by this neither, for

my Looking-Glasses immediately went to rack.

'In short, Sir, whenever he is in a Passion he is an-

gry at every thing that is brittle; and if on such Occasion he had nothing to vent his Rage upon. I do not know whether my Bones would be in Sasety. Let me beg of you, Sir, to let me know whether there be

any Cure for this unaccountable Distemper, or if not,

that you will be pleased to publish this Letter: For my Husband having a great Veneration for your Wri-

tings, will by that means know you do not approve

of his Conduct.

I am,

Your most bumble Servant, &c.

No. 564. Wednesday, July 7.

- Adfit

Regula, peccatis quæ pænas irroget æquas: Ne Scutica dignum horribile sectere flagello. Hor.

I T is the Work of a Philosopher to be every Day subduing his Passions, and laying aside his Prejudices. I endeavour at least to look upon Men and their Actions only as an impartial Spectator, without any Regard to them as they happen to advance or cross my own private Interest. But while I am thus employed my self, I cannot help observing, how those about me suffer themselves to be blinded by Prejudice and Inclination, how readily they pronounce to every Man's Character, which they can give in two Words, and make him either good for nothing, or qualified for every

every thing. On the contrary, those who search thoroughly into human Nature, will find it much more difficult to determine the Value of their Fellow-Creatures, and that Mens Characters are not thus to be given in general Words. There is indeed no such thing as a Person intirely good or bad; Virtue and Vice are blended and mixed together, in a greater or less Proportion, in every one; and if you would search for some particular good Quality in its most eminent Degree of Persection, you will often find it in a Mind, where it is darkned and eclipsed by an hundred other

irregular Passions.

MEN have either no Character at all, fays a celebrated Author; or it is that of being inconfishent with themselves. They find it easier to join Extremities, than to be uniform and of a Piece. This is finely illustrated in Xenophon's Life of Cyrus the Great. Author tells us, that Cyrus having taken a most beautiful Lady named Panthea, the Wife of Abradatus, committed her to the Custody of Araspas, a young Perfian Nobleman, who had a little before maintain'd in Discourse, That a Mind truly virtuous was incapable of entertaining an unlawful Passion. The young Gentleman had not long been in Possession of his fair Captive, when a Complaint was made to Cyrus, that he not only follicited the Lady Panthea to receive him in the Room of her absent Husband, but that finding his Entreaties had no effect, he was preparing to make ule of Force. Cyrus, who loved the young Man, immediately fent for him, and in a gentle Manner representing to him his Fault, and putting him in Mind of his former Affertion, the unhappy Youth, confounded with a quick Sense of his Guilt and Shame, burst out into Flood of Tears, and spoke as follows,

OH Cyrus, I am convinced that I have two Souls. Love has taught me this Piece of Philosophy. If I had but one Soul, it could not at the same time pant after Vittue and Vice, wish and abhor the same thing. It is certain therefore we have two Souls. When the good Scul rules, I undertake noble and virtuous Actions; but when the bal Soul predominates, I am forced to do Evil. All I can ja

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at present is, that I find my good Soul, encouraged by your

Presence, has got the better of my bad.

I know not whether my Readers will allow of this Piece of Philosophy; but if they will not, they must confess we meet with as different Passions in one and the same Soul, as can be supposed in two. We can hardly read the Life of a great Man who lived in former Ages, or converse with any who is eminent among our Contemporaries, that is not an Instance of what I am say-

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But as I have hitherto only argued against the Partiality and Injustice of giving our Judgment upon Men in Gross, who are such a Composition of Virtues and Vices, of Good and Evil; I might carry this Reflection still further, and make it extend to most of their Actions. If on the one Hand, we fairly weighed every Circumstance, we should frequently find them obliged to do that Action we at first Sight condemn, in order to avoid another we should have been much more displeased with. If on the other Hand we nicely examined such Actions as appear more dazling to the Eye, we should find most of them either deficient and lame in several Parts, produced by a bad Ambition, or directed to an ill End. The very same Action may sometimes be so oddly circumstanced, that it is difficult to determine whether it ought to be rewarded or punish'd. Those who compiled the Laws of England were so sensible of this, that they have laid it down as one of their first Maxims, It is better suffering a Mischief than an Inconvenience, which is as much as to fay in other Words, That fince no Law can take in or provide for all Cases, it is better private Men should have some Injustice done them, than that a publick Grievance should not be redressed. This is usually pleaded in Defence of all those Hardships which fall on particular Perfons in particular Occafions, which could not be foreseen when a Law was made. To remedy this however as much as possible, the Court of Chancery was erected, which frequently mitigates and breaks the Teeth of the common Law, in Case of Men's Properties, while in Criminal Cases there is a Power of pardoning still lodg'd in the Crown.

NoT-

Notwithstanding this, it is perhaps impossible in a large Government to distribute Rewards and Punishments strictly proportioned to the Merits of every Actions. The Spartan Commonwealth was indeed wonderfully exact in this Particular; and I do not remember in all my Reading to have met with so nice an Example of Justice as that recorded by Platarch, with

which I shall close my Paper for this Day.

THE City of Sparta being unexpectedly attacked by a powerful Army of Thebans, was in very great Danger of falling into the Hands of their Enemies. The Citizens fuddenly gathering themselves into a Body, fought with a Resolution equal to the Necessity of their Affairs, yet no one so remarkably distinguished himfelf on this Occasion, to the Amazement of both Armies, as Isadas the Son of Phæbidas, who was at that Time in the Bloom of his Youth, and very remarkable for the Comeliness of his Person. He was coming out of the Bath when the Alarm was given, fo that he had not Time to put on his Clothes, much less his Armour; however transported with a Defire to serve his Country, in fo great an Exigency, fnatching up a Spear in one Hand, and a Sword in the other, he flung himself into the thickest Ranks of his Enemies. Nothing could withfland his Fury; in what Part soever he fought he put the Enemies to Flight without receiving a fingle Wound. Whether, fays Plutarch, he was the particular Care of fome God, who rewarded his Valour that Day with an extraordinary Protection, or, that his Enemies, flruck with the Unusualness of his Dress, and Beauty of his Shape, supposed him something more than Man, I shall not determine.

THE Gallantry of this Action was judged so great by the Spartans, that the Ephori, or chief Magistrates, decreed he should be presented with a Garland; but as soon as they had done so, fined him a thousand Drach-

mas, for going out to the Battle unarmed.

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No. 565. Friday, July 9.

Terrasque, tractusque maris, cælumque profundum.
Virg.

Was Yesterday about Sun-set walking in the open Fields, 'till the Night infenfibly fell upon me, I at first amused my self with all the Richness and Variety of Colours, which appeared in the western Parts of Heaven: In proportion as they faded away and went out, several Stars and Planets appeared one after another, 'till the whole Firmament was in a Glow. Blueness of the Æther was exceedingly heightened and enlivened by the Season of the Year, and by the Rays of all those Luminaries that passed through it. Galaxy appeared in its most beautiful White. To compleat the Scene, the full Moon rose at length in that clouded Majesty, which Milton takes Notice of, and opened to the Eye, a new Picture of Nature, which was more finely shaded, and disposed among softer Lights, than that which the Sun had before discovered to us.

As I was surveying the Moon walking in her Brightness and taking her Progress among the Constellations, a Thought rose in me which I believe very often perplexes and disturbs Men of serious and contemplative Natures. David himself fell into it in that Ressection, When I consider the Heavens the Work of thy Fingers, the Moon and the Stars which thou hast ordained, what is Man that thou art mindful of him, and the Son of Man that thou regardest him! In the same Manner when I considered that infinite Host of Stars, or, to speak more philosophically, of Suns, which were then shining upon me, with those innumerable Sets of Planets or Worlds, which were moving round their respective Suns; when I still enlarged the Idea, and sup-

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posed another Heaven of Suns and Worlds rising still above this which we discovered, and these still enlightned by a superior Firmament of Luminaries, which are planted at so great a Distance, that they may appear to the Inhabitants of the former as the Stars do to us. In short, whilst I pursued this Thought, I could not but resect on that little insignificant Figure which I my self bore amidst the Immensity of God's Works.

WERE the Sun, which enlightens this Part of the Creation, with all the Host of Planetary Worlds that move about him, utterly extinguished and annihilated; they would not be miffed more than a Grain of Sand upon the Sea-shore. The Space they posses is so exceedingly little in Comparison of the whole, that it would scarce make a Blank in the Creation. The Chasm would be imperceptible to an Eye, that could take in the whole Compass of Nature, and pass from one End of the Creation to the other; as it is possible there may be fuch a Sense in our selves hereafter, or in Creatures which are at present more exalted than our felves. We see many Stars by the Help of Glasfes, which we do not discover with our naked Eyes; and the finer our Telescopes are, the more still are our Huygenius carries this Thought fo far, Discoveries. that he does not think it impossible there may be Stars whose Light is not yet travelled down to us, fince There is no Question but the their first Creation. Universe has certain Bounds set to it; but when we confider that it is the Work of infinite Power, prompted by infinite Goodness, with an infinite Space to exert it felf in, how can our Imagination fet any Bounds to

To return therefore to my first Thought, I could not but look upon my self with secret Horror, as a Being that was not worth the smallest Regard of one who had so great a Work under his Care and Superintendency. I was afraid of being overlooked amidst the Immensity of Nature, and lost among that infinite Variety of Creatures, which in all Probability swarm through all these immeasureable Regions of Matter.

IN (Though narrow ain of end to ve are Courfe observe n some s they mited N s confin equently of Object and und Creature nother : hele our ore we and accu we cann him in w Reason is ite, but t cannot contempla our, and ife in us

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IF we confident through the state of Nature. The distant, followers

In Order to recover my felf from this mortifying Thought, I confidered that it to took its Rife from those narrow Conceptions, which we are apt to enterain of the divine Nature. We our felves cannot atend to many different Objects at the same Time. we are careful to inspect some Things, we must of Course neglect others. This Imperfection which we observe in our selves, is an Impersection that cleaves n some Degree to Creatures of the highest Capacities, s they are Creatures, that is, Beings of finite and limited Natures. The Presence of every created being s confined to a certain Measure of Space, and conequently his Observation is stinted to a certain Number of Objects. The Sphere in which we move and act, and understand, is of a wider Circumference to one Creature than another, according as we rife one above nother in the Scale of Existence. But the widest of hele our Spheres has its Circumference. When thereore we reflect on the divine Nature, we are so used and accustomed to this Imperfection in our selves, that we cannot forbear in some measure ascribing it to him in whom there is no Shadow of Imperfection. Our Reason indeed assures us that his Attributes are infiite, but the Poorness of our Conceptions is such, that t cannot forbear fetting Bounds to every Thing it contemplates, till our Reason comes again to our Succour, and throws down all those little Prejudices which file in us unawares, and are natural to the Mind of

WE shall therefore utterly extinguish this melancholy Thought, of our being overlooked by our Mater in the Multiplicity of his Works, and the Infinity of those Objects among which he seems to be incessantby employed, if we consider, in the first Place, that he is Omnipresent; and, in the second, that he is Omiscient.

IF we consider him in his Omnipresence: His Being asses through, actuates, and supports the whole Frame Nature. His Creation, and every Part of it, is full of him. There is nothing he has made, that is either so distant, so little, or so inconsiderable, which he does not effentially

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effentially inhabit. His Substance is within the Substance of every Being, whether material or immaterial, and as intimately present to it, as that being is to it felf. It would be an Imperfection in himself, were he able to remove out of one Place into another, or to withdraw himself from any Thing he has created, or from any Part of that Space which is diffused and spread abroad to Infinity. In short to speak of him in the Language of the old Philosopher, he is a Being whose Centre is every where, and his Circumserence no where.

In the fecond Place, he is Omniscient as well a Omnipresent. His Omniscience indeed necessarily and naturally flows from his Omnipresence; he cannot but be conscious of every Motion that arises in the whole material World, which he thus effentially pervades, and of every Thought that is stirring in the intellectual World, to every part of which he is thus intimately united. Several Moralists have considered the Creation as the Temple of God, which he has built with his own Hands, and which is filled with his Presence. Other have confidered infinite Space as the Receptacle, or rather the Habitation of the Almighty: But the noblest and most exalted Way of considering this infinite Space is that of Sir Isaac Newton, who calls it the Sensorium of the Godhead. Brutes and Men have their Senforiola, or little Senforiums by which they apprehend the Prefence and perceive the Actions of a few Objects, that lie contiguous to them. Their Knowledge and Observation turns within a very narrow Circle. But as God Almighty cannot but perceive and know every thing in which he resides, infinite Space gives Room to infinite Knowledge, and is, as it were, an Organ to Omniscience.

WERE the Soul separate from the Body, and with one Glance of Thought should start beyond the Bounds of the Creation, should it for Millions of Years continue its Progress, through infinite Space with the same Activity, it would still find itself within the Embrace of its Creator, and encompassed round with the Immensity of the Godhead. Whilst we are in the Body

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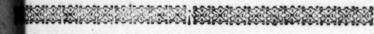
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OL. VIII

10.566. The SPECTATOR.

e is not less present with us, because he is concealed om us. O that I knew where I might find him, fays ob. Behold I go forward, but he is not there; and ackward, but I cannot perceive him. On the left hand, where he does work, but I cannot behold him: he hideth imself on the right hand that I cannot see him. In short, eason as well as Revelation assures us, that he cannot e absent from us, notwithstanding he is undiscovered

In this Confideration of God Almighty's Omniprence and Omniscience every uncomfortable Thought anishes. He cannot but regard every Thing that has eing, especially such of his Creatures who fear they e not regarded by him. He is privy to all their houghts, and to that Anxiety of Heart in particular, hich is apt to trouble them on this Occasion: For, it is impossible he should overlook any of his Creares, fo we may be confident that he regards, with an ye of Mercy, those who endeavour to recommend themlves to his Notice, and in an unfeigned Humility of eart think them felves unworthy that he should be mindof them.



0.566. Monday, July 12.

Militia Species Amor est -

Ovid.

S my Correspondents begin to grow pretty numerous, I think my felf obliged to take some Notice of them, and shall therefore make this Paper a scellany of Letters. I have, fince my reassuming the ce of SPECTATOR, received abundance of Epiftles n Gentlemen of the Blade, who, I find, have been fed to Action that they know not how to lie still. ey feem generally to be of Opinion, that the Fair at he ought to reward them for their Services abroad, that, till the Cause of their Country calls them OL. VIII. again

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Mr. SPECTATOR,

"HO' it may look fomewhat perverse amidst the Arts of Peace, to talk too much of War, it is but Gratitude to pay the last Office to its Manes, fine

even Peace itself is, in some measure, obliged to it for

its Being. 'You have, in your former Papers, always recommended the Accomplished to the Favour of the Fair; and, I hope, you will allow me to represent some • Part of a Military Life not altogether unnecessary w the forming a Gentleman. I need not tell you, that in France, whose Fashions we have formerly been to fond of, almost every one derives his Pretences to Me rit from the Sword; and that a Man has scarce the Face to make his court to a Lady, without some Credentials from the Service to recommend him. As the Profession is very antient, we have Reason to think some of the greatest Men among the old Romans, derived many of their Virtues from it, their Commanders be ing trequently, in other Respects, some of the mod fhining Characters of the Age. · THE Army not only gives a Man Opportunits of exercifing those two great Virtues Patience and Courage, but often produces them in Minds where the

had scarce any Footing before. I must add, that

is one of the best Schools in the World to receive

general Notion of Mankind in, and a certain Freedom of Behaviour, which is not so easily acquired in an

other Place. At the same Time I must own, the

fome Military Airs are pretty extraordinary, and the

a Man who goes into the Army a Coxcomb will com

out of it a fort of publick Nuisance: But a Mand Sense, or one who before had not been sufficient

used to a mixed Conversation, generally takes them

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Turn. The Court has in all Ages been allowed to be the Standard of Good-breeding; and I believe there is not a juster Observation in Monsieur Rouchefoucault, than that A Man who has been bred up wholly to Bufiness, can never get the Air of a Courtier at Court, but will immediately catch it in the Camp. The Reason of this most certainly is, that the very Essence of Goodbreeding and Politeness consists in several Niceties. which are fo minute that they escape his Observation. and he falls short of the Original he would copy after; but when he fees the fame Things charged and aggravated to a Fault, he no fooner endeavours to come up to the Pattern which is fet before him, than, though he stops fomewhat short of that, he naturally rests where in Reality he ought. I was two or three Days ago, mightily pleased with the Observation of an humorous Gentleman upon one of his Friends, who was. in other Respects every way an accomplish'd Person, That he wanted nothing but a Dash of the Coxcomb in him; by which he understood a little of that Alertness and Unconcern in the common Actions of Life. which is usually so visible among Gentlemen of the Army, and which a Campaign or two would infallibly have given him.

' You will eafily guess, Sir, by this my Panegyrick upon a Military Education, that I am my felf a Soldier, and indeed I am fo. I remember within three Years after I had been in the Army, I was ordered into the Country a Recruiting. I had very particular Success in this Part of the Service, and was over and above affured, at my going away, that I might have taken a young Lady, who was the most considerable Fortune in the Country along with me. I preferred the Purfuit of Fame at that Time to all other Confiderations. and the' I was not absolutely bent on a wooden Leg, resolved at least to get a Scar or two for the Good of Europe. I have at present as much as I desire of this fort of Honour, and if you could recommend me effectually, should be well enough contented to pass the Remainder of my Days in the Arms of some dear kind Creature, and upon a pretty Estate in the Coun-

C 2

ample of Lucius Cincinnatus, the old Roman Dictator, who at the End of a War left the Camp to follow the

Plow, I am, Sir, with all imaginable Respect,

Your most Obedient,

Humble Servant,

Will. Warly.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

AM an half-pay Officer, and am at present with a Friend in the Country. Here is a rich Widow in

the Neighbourhood, who has made Fools of all the Fox-hunters within fifty Miles of her. She declares she

intends to marry, but has not yet been asked by the

Man she could like. She usually admits her humble
 Admirers to an Audience or two, but, after she has

once given them Denial, will never see them more. I am assured by a female Relation that I shall have fair

Play at her; but as my whole Success depends on my

first Approaches, I desire your Advice, whether I had

best Storm, or proceed by way of Sap.

Iam, SIR,

Yours, &c.

P. S. ' I had forgot to tell you, that I have already carried one of her Outworks, that is, fecured her Maid.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

Have affished in several Sieges in the Low-countries, and being still willing to employ my Talents, as a

Soldier and Engineer, lay down this Morning at level a Clock before the Door of an obstinate Female, who

had for some Time refused me Admittance. I made

Lodgment in an outer Parlour about twelve: The

Enemy retired to her Bed-chamber, yet I still pursued,

and about two a-Clock this Afternoon she thought fit to capitulate. Her Demands are indeed somewhat

high, in relation to the Settlement of her Fortune:

But being in Poffession of the House, I intend to in

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The SPECTATOR. No. 567.

fift upon Carte Blanche, and am in hopes, by keeping off all other Pretenders for the Space of twenty four Hours, to starve her into a Compliance. I beg your

fpeedy Advice, and am,

SIR, Yours,

Peter Push.

From my Camp in Red-lion Square, Saturday 4 in the Afternoon.

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No. 567. Wednesday, July 14.

Inceptus clamor frustratur biantes. Virg.

Have received private Advice from fome of my Correspondents, that if I would give my Paper a general Run, I should take care to season it with Scandal. have indeed observed of late, that few Writings sell which re not filled with great Names and illustrious Titles. The Reader generally casts his Eye upon a new Book, and if e finds several Letters separated from one another by a Dash, he buys it up, and peruses it with great Satisfactim. An Mand an b, a T and an r, with a short Line beween them, has fold many an infipid Pamphlet. Nay I ave known a whole Edition go off by vertue of two or hree well-written &c-

A sprinkling of the Words Faction, Frenchman, Papist, lunderer, and the like fignificant Terms, in an Italick haracter, have also a very good Effect upon the Eye f the Purchaser, not to mention Scribler, Lyar, Rogue, Rascal, Knave and Villain, without which it is impos-

ble to carry on a modern Controversy.

Our Party-writers are fo fenfible of the secret Virtue f an Inuendo to recommend their Productions, that of te they never mention the Q____n or P____t length, though they speak of them with Honour and

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with that Deference which is due to them from every private Person. It gives a secret Satisfaction to a Peruser of these mysterious Works, that he is able to decipher them without Help, and by the Strength of his own na. tural Parts, to fill up a blank Space, or make out a Word

that has only the first or last Letter to it.

Some of our Authors indeed, when they would be more fatyrical than ordinary, omit only the Vowels of a great Man's Name, and fall most unmercifully upon all the Confonants. This way of Writing was first of all introduced by T---m Br--wn, of facetious Memory, who, after having gutted a proper Name of all its intermediate Vowels, used to plant it in his Works, and make as free with it as he pleased without any Danger of the Statute.

THAT I may imitate these celebrated Authors, and publish a Paper which shall be more taking than ordinary, I have here drawn up a very curious Libel, in which Reader of Penetration will find a great deal of concealed Satyr, and if he be acquainted with the Present Postured Affairs, will eafily discover the Meaning of it.

' IF there are four Persons in the Nation who endeavour to bring all Things into Confusion, and ruin

- their native Country, I think every honest Engl-A "m--n ought to be upon his Guard. That there are fuch, every one will agree with me, who hears me
- * name *** with his first Friend and Favourite ***
- onot to mention *** nor ***. These People may
- cry Ch--rch, Ch--rch, as long as they please, but to
- " make use of a homely Proverb, The Proof of the
- · P--dd--ng is in the eating. This I am fure of, that
- if a certain Prince should concur with a certain Prelate
- (and we have Monfieur Z _____ n's Word for it) ou Posterity would be in a sweet P_ckle. Must the
- British Nation suffer forsooth, because my Lady • 2-p-t-s has been disobliged? Or is it reasonable that
- our English Fleet, which used to be the Terror
- the Ocean, should lie Wind-bound for the Sake of
- a _____. I love to speak out and declare my Min
- clearly, when I am talking for the Good of my
- · Country. I will not make my court to an ill Man

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• tho' he were a B - y or a T - t. Nay, I would not • flick to call fo wretched a Politician, a Traitor, an • Enemy to his Country, and a Bl-nd-rb-fs, &c. &c.

THE remaining Part of this political Treatife, which is written after the manner of the most celebrated Authors in Great-Britain, I may communicate to the Publick at a more convenient Season. In the mean while I shall leave this with my curious Reader, as some ingenious Writers do their Enigma's, and if any sagacious Person can fairly unriddle it, I will print his Explanation, and, if he pleases, acquaint the World with his Name.

I hope this short Essay will convince my Readers, it is not for want of Abilities that I avoid State-tracts, and that if I would apply my Mind to it, I might in a little time be as great a Master of the Political Scratch as any the most eminent Writer of the Age. I shall only add, that in order to outshine all the modern Race of Syncopists, and thoroughly content my English Readers, I intend shortly to publish a Spectator, that shall not have a single Vowel in it.

No. 568. Friday, July 16.

- Dum recitas, incipit effe Tuus. Mart.

I WAS Yesterday in a Cossee-house not far from the Royal Exchange, where I observed three Persons in close Conference over a Pipe of Tobacco; upon which, having filled one for my own Use, I lighted it at the little Wax Candle that stood before them; and after having thrown in two or three Whiss amongst them, sat down and made one of the Company. I need not tell my Reader, that lighting a Man's Pipe at the same Candle, is looked upon among Brother-smoakers as an Overture to Conversation and Friendship. As we here laid our Heads together in a very amicable Manner, being intrenched under a Cloud of our own raising, I took up the last Spectator, and

and casting my Eye over it, The SPECTATOR, fays I. is very witty to-day; upon which a lufty lethargick old Gentleman, who fat at the upper End of the Table. having gradually blown out of his Mouth a great deal of Smoak, which he had been collecting for some time before, Ay, fays he, more witty than wife I am afraid, His Neighbour, who fat at his right Hand, immediate. ly coloured, and being an angry Politician, laid down his Pipe with fo much Wrath that he broke it in the Middle, and by that Means furnished me with a Tobac. co-stopper. I took it up very fedately, and looking him full in the Face, made use of it from time to time all the while he was speaking? This Fellow, says he, can't for his Life keep out of Politicks. Do you fee how he abuses four great Men here? I fix'd my Eye very attentively on the Paper, and asked him if he meant those who were represented by Asterisks. Asterisks, says he, do you call them? they are all of them Stars. He might as well have put Garters to'em. Then pray do but mind the two or three next Lines? Ch-rch and P-dd-ing in the same Sentence! Our Clergy are very much beholden to him. Upon this the third Gentleman, who was of a mild Disposition, and, as I found, a Whig in his Heart, defired him not to be too fevere upon the SPECTATOR neither; For, fays he, you find he is very cautious of giving Offence, and has therefore put two Dashes into his Pudding. A Fig for his Dash, fays the angry Politician. In his next Sentence he gives a plain Invendo, that our Posterity will be in a saveet What does the Fool mean by his Pickle? Why does he not write it at length, if he means honeftly? I have read over the whole Sentence, fays I; but I look upon the Parenthefis in the Belly of it to be the most dangerous Part, and as full of Infinuations as it can hold. But who, fays I, is my Lady Q-p-t-s? Ay, answer that if you can, Sir, fays the furious Statesman to the poor Whig that fate over-against him. But without giving him Time to reply, I do affure you, fays he, were I my Lady Q-p-t-s, I would fue him for Scandalum Magnatum. What is the World come to? must every Body be allowed to-? He had by this time filled a new Pipe, and applying it to his Lips, when we expected the last Word of his Sentence,

No. 5 tence, redoubl almost I owned far in w Name; for it in without fays I, the Ter the fake in my Of gonist, yo I suppose to creep or Who can B--y's an I can't fo SPECTA ble Serva his Chair on the old found y had begun ceing my of his Box bliged to Quarter of AT my ear reflec fools who Difficulty of which a w and persona A Man reason an an be put

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tence, put us off with a Whiff of Tobacco; which he redoubled with fo much Rage and Trepidation, that he almost stifled the whole Company. After a short Pause, I owned that I thought the SPECTATOR had gone too far in writing fo many Letters of my Lady 2--p--t--s's Name; but bowever, fays I, he has made a little Amends for it in his next Sentence, where he leaves a blank Space without so much as a Consonant to direct us? I mean, fays I, after those Words, The Fleet, that used to be the Terror of the Ocean, should be Wind-bound for the sake of a -; after which ensues a Chasm, that in my Opinion looks modest enough. Sir, says my Antagonist, you may easily know his meaning by his Gaping; I suppose he designs his Chasm, as you call it, for an Hole to creep out at, but I believe it will hardly ferve his Turn. Who can endure to fee the great Officers of State, the B-y's and T-t's treated after so scurrilous a Manner? I can't for my Life, says I, imagine who they are the SPECTATOR means? No! fays he, ____ Your humble Servant Sir! Upon which he flung himself back in his Chair after a contemptuous Manner, and smiled upon the old lethargick Gentleman on his left hand, who found was his great Admirer. The Whig however had begun to conceive a Good-will towards me, and ceing my Pipe out, very generously offered me the Use of his Box; but I declined it with great Civility, being obliged to meet a Friend about that Time in another Quarter of the City.

Ar my leaving the Coffee house, I could not forear reflecting with my self upon that gross Tribe of sools who may be termed the Over-wise, and upon the Difficulty of writing any thing in this censorious Age, which a weak Head may not construe into private Satyr

and personal Reflection.

A Man who has a good Nose at an Inuendo, smells Ireason and Sedition in the most innocent Words that an be put together, and never sees a Vice or Folly igmatized, but finds out one or other of his Acquainance pointed at by the Writer. I remember an empty ragmatical Fellow in the Country, who upon reading wer the whole Duty of Man, had written the Names of

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feveral Persons in the Village at the Side of every Sin which is mentioned by that excellent Author; fo that he had converted one of the best Books in the World into a Libel against the Squire, Church-wardens, O. verfeers of the Poor, and all other the most considerable Persons in the Parish. This Book with these extraordinary marginal Notes fell accidentally into the Hands of one who had never feen it before; upon which there arose a current Report that some Body had written a Book against the 'Squire and the whole Parish. The Minister of the Place having at that Timea Controverfy with some of his Congregation upon the Account of his Tythes was under fome Suspicion of being the Author, 'till the good Man fet his People right, by shewing them that the satyrical Passages might be applied to feveral others of two or three neighbouring Villages, and that the Book was writ against all the Sinners in England.

the decided of the state of the

No. 569. Monday, July 19.

Reges dicuntur multis urgere culullis Et torquere mero, quem perspexisse laborent, An sit amicitia dignus -

Hor.

O Vices are so incurable as those which Men are apt to glory in. One would wonder how Drunkenness should have the good Luck to be of this Number. Anacharfis, being invited to a Match of Drinking at Corinth, demanded the Prize very hemoroufly, because he was drunk before any of the rest of the Company: for, says he, when we run t Race, he who arrives at the Goal first is entitled to the Reward: On the contrary, in this thirsty Generation, the Honour falls upon him who carries off the greatest Body, and Quantity of Liquor, and knocks down the rest of the In regar Company. I was the other Day with honest Will. Fur law in it.

No. 5 nell the Liquor 1 his Life, ed to tv of Port, rels of C which, I not to m ber. I fuggest to as vain in of as glo OUR general I This they which in Bodies tha But, with Account t their Nou

low-Creat Share. Bur h hink of t fer than ar which Go which app Eyes of al Bonosus, OI dicted to th nan Empir

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nell the West Saxon, who was reckoning up how much Liquor had past through him in the last twenty Years of his Life, which, according to his Computation, amounted to twenty three Hogsheads of October, four Ton of Port, half a Kilderkin of small Beer, nineteeen Barrels of Cyder, and three Glasses of Champain, besides which, he had assisted at four hundred Bowls of Punch, not to mention Sips, Drams, and Whets without Number. I question not but every Reader's Memory will suggest to him several ambitious young Men, who are as vain in this Particular as Will. Funnell, and can boast of as glorious Exploits.

Our modern Philosophers observe, that there is a general Decay of Moissure in the Globe of the Earth. This they chiefly ascribe to the Growth of Vegetables, which incorporate into their own Substance many fluid Bodies that never return again to their former Nature: But, with Submission, they ought to throw into their Account those innumerable rational Beings which fetch their Nourishment chiefly out of Liquids; especially when we consider that Men, compared with their Fellow-Creatures, drink much more than comes to their

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But however highly this Tribe of People may think of themselves, a drunken Man is a greater Monster than any that is to be found among all the Creatures which God has made; as indeed there is no Character which appears more despicable and desormed, in the Eyes of all reasonable Persons, than that of a Drunkard. Bonosus, one of our own Countrymen, who was addicted to this Vice, having set up for a Share in the Roman Empire, and being deseated in a great Battle, hang'd himself. When he was seen by the Army in this melantholy Situation, notwithstanding he had behaved himself tery bravely, the common Jest was, That the Thing hey saw hanging upon the Tree before them, was not Man but a Bottle.

This Vice has very fatal Effects on the Mind, the Body, and Fortune of the Person who is devoted to it. In regard to the Mind, it first of all discovers every law in it. The sober Man, by the Strength of Reason,

nell

may keep under and fubdue every Vice or Folly to which he is most inclined; but Wine makes every latent Seed sprout up in the Soul, and shew itself; it gives Fury to the Passions, and Force to those Objects which are apt to produce them. When a young Fellow complained to an old Philosopher that his Wife was not handsome, Put less Water in your Wine, fays the Philosopher, and you'll quickly make her fo. Wine heightens Indifference into Love, Love into Jealoufie, and Jealoufie into Madness. It often turns the Good-natured Man into an Idiot, and the Cholerick into an Affassin. It gives Bitterness to Refentment, it makes Vanity insupportable, and displays every little Spot of the Soul in its utmost Deformity.

Nor does this Vice only betray the hidden Faults of a Man, and shew them in the most odious Colours, but often occasions Faults to which he is not naturally subject. There is more of Turn than of Truth in a Saying of Seneca, That Drunkenness does not produce but difcover Faults. Common Experience teaches us the contrary. Wine throws a Man out of himself, and insus Qualities into the Mind, which she is a Stranger to in her fober Moments. The Person you converse with, after the third Bottle, is not the same Man who at first fat down at Table with you. Upon this Maxim is founded one of the prettiest Sayings I ever met with, which is ascribed to Publius Syrus, Qui ebrium ludificat lædit absentem; He who jests upon a Man that is drunk, injura the Absent.

THUS does Drunkenness act in direct Contradiction to Reason, whose Business it is to clear the Mind of evemy Vice which is crept into it, and to guard it against all the Approaches of any that endeavours to make its Entrance. But besides these ill Effects which this Vice produces in the Person who is actually under its Dominion, it has also a bad Influence on the Mind even in its sober Moments, as it insensibly weakens the Understanding impairs the Memory, and makes those Faults habitual

which are produced by frequent Excesses.

I should now proceed to shew the ill Effects which this Vice has on the Bodies and Fortunes of Men; bu these I shall referve for the Subject of some future Paper No.

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No. 570. Wednesday, July 21.

-Nugæque canoræ.

Hor.

THERE is scarce a Man living who is not actuated by Ambition. When this Principle meets with an honest Mind and great Abilities, it does infinite Service to the World; on the contrary, when a Man only thinks of diftinguishing himself, without being thus qualified for it, he becomes a very pernicious or a very ridiculous Creature. I shall here confine my felf to that pretty kind of Ambition by which some Men. grow eminent for odd Accomplishments and trivial Performances. How many are there whose whole Reputation depends upon a Pun or a Quibble? You may often fee an Artist in the Streets gain a Circle of Admirers, by carrying a long Pole upon his Chin or Forehead in a perpendicular Posture. Ambition has taught some to write with their Feet, and others to walk upon their Hands. Some tumble into Fame, and others grow immortal by throwing themselves thro' a Hoop.

Cætera de genere hoc adeò sunt multa, loquacem Delassare valent Fabium-

I am led into this Train of Thought by an Adventure

I lately met with.

I was the other Day at a Tavern, where the Master of the House accommodating us himself with every Thing we wanted, I accidentally fell into a Discourse with him; and talking of a certain great Man, who shall be nameless, he told me, That he had sometimes the Honour to treat him with a Whistle; (adding by the way of Parenthess) For you must know, Gentlemen, that I whistle the best of any Man in Europe. This naturally put me upon desiring him to give us a Sample of his

Art; upon which he called for a Cafe-knife, and an plying the Edge of it to his Mouth, converted it into a musical Instrument, and entertained me with an Italian Solo. Upon laving down the Knife, he took up a Pair of clean Tobacco Pipes; and after having flid the small End of them over the Table in a most melodious Trill, he fetched a Tune out of them, whistling to them at the same Time in Consort. In short, the Tobacco Pipes became Musical Pipes in the Hands of our Virtuofo; who confessed to me ingenuously, he had broke fuch Quantities of them, that he had almost broke himself, before he had brought this Piece of Musick to any tolerable Perfection. I then told him I would bring a Company of Friends to dine with him the next Week, as an Encouragement to his Ingenuity; upon which he thanked me, faying, That he would provide himself with a new Frying-pan against that Day. I replied, That it was no matter; Roast and Boil'd would ferve our Turn. He smiled at my Simplicity, and told me, That it was his Defign to give us a Tune upon As I was surprised at such a Promise, he sent for an old Frying-pan, and grating it upon the Board, whistled to it in such a melodious Manner, that you could scarce distinguish it from a Bass-viol. He then took his Seat with us at the Table, and hearing my Friend that was with me humm over a Tune to himfelf, he told him, if he would fing out, he would accompany his Voice with a Tobacco-pipe. As my Friend has an agreeable Bass, he chose rather to fing to the Frying-pan; and indeed between them they made up a most extraordinary Confort. Finding our Landlord fo great a Proficient in Kitchen-musick, I asked him if he was Mafter of the Tongs and Key. He told me that he had laid it down some Years since, as a little unfashionable; but that if I pleased he would give me a Lesson upon the Gridiron. He then informed me that he had added two Bars to the Gridiron, in order to give it a greater Compass of Sound; and I perceived was as well pleased with the Invention, as Sappho could have been upon adding two Strings to the Lute. To be short, I found that his whole Kitchen was furnished

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HE a tation of ed our I den we He next proper ! Ground then con Birds of Bulk and him a G Titt wh quainting was form Bar; a up under he has r his great not but deferves version o Queen's A Garden.

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A S the fift feve the follow SPECTA questionin

with mufical Instruments; and could not but look upon

this Artist as a kind of Burlesque Musician.

HE afterwards of his own Accord fell into the Imitation of feveral finging Birds. My Friend and I toafted our Mistresses to the Nightingale, when all of a sudden we were surpriz'd with the Musick of a Thrush. He next proceeded to the Sky-Lark, mounting up by a proper Scale of Notes, and afterwards falling to the Ground with a very easy and regular Descent. then contracted his Whiftle to the Voice of several Birds of the smallest Size. As he is a Man of a larger Bulk and higher Stature than ordinary, you would fancy him a Giant when you look'd upon him, and a Tom-Titt when you shut your Eyes. I must not omit acquainting my Reader, that this accomplish'd Person was formerly the Master of a Toyshop near Temple-Bar; and that the famous Charles Mathers was bred up under him. I am told that the Misfortunes which he has met with in the World, are chiefly owing to his great Application to his Musick; and therefore cannot but recommend him to my Readers as one who deserves their Favour, and may afford them great Diversion over a Bottle of Wine, which he sells at the Queen's Arms, near the End of the little Piazza in Covent-Garden.

No. 571. Friday, July 23.

-Cælum quid quærimus ultra?

Luc.

A S the Work, I have engaged in, will not only confift of Papers of Humour and Learning, but of feveral Essays Moral and Divine, I shall publish the following one, which is founded on a former Spectator, and sent me by a particular Friend, not questioning but it will please such of my Readers as think

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think it no Disparagement to their Understandings to give way sometimes to a serious Thought.

SIR,

In your Paper of Friday the 9th Instant you had Oc casion to consider the Ubiquity of the Godhead, and at the same Time to shew, that as he is present to every Thing, he cannot but be attentive to every Thing, and privy to all the Modes and Parts of its Existence; or, in other Words, that his Omniscience and Omnipresence are coexistent, and run together through the whole Infinity of Space. This Consideration might furnish us with many Incentives to Devotion and Motives to Morality, but as this Subject has been handled by several excellent Writers, I shall consider it in a Light wherein I have not seen it placed by others.

First, How disconsolate is the Condition of an intellectual Being who is thus present with his Maker, but at the same Time receives no extraordinary Benefit or Ad-

vantage from this his Presence!

Secondly, How deplorable is the Condition of an intellectual Being, who feels no other Effects from this his Presence but such as proceed from divine Wrath and Indignation!

Thirdly, How happy is the Condition of that intellectual Being, who is fenfible of his Maker's Presence from the secret Effects of his Mercy and Loving-kind-

ness.

First, How disconsolate is the Condition of an intellectual Being, who is thus present with his Maker, but at the same Time receives no extraordinary Benest or Advantage from this his Presence! Every Particle of Matter is actuated by this Almighty Being which passes through it. The Heavens and the Earth, the Stars and Planets, move and gravitate by Virtue of this great Principle within them. All the dead Parts of Nature are invigorated by the Presence of their Creator, and made capable of exerting their respective Qualities. The several Instincts, in the brute Creation, do likewise operate and work towards the several Ends which are agreeable to them, by this divine Energy.

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Man only, who does not co-operate with this holy Spirit, and is unattentive to his Presence, receives none of those Advantages from it, which are perfective of his Nature, and necessary to his Well-being. The Divinity is with him, and in him, and every where about him, but of no Advantage to him. It is the fame Thing to a Man without Religion, as if there were no God in the World. It is indeed impossible for an infinite being to remove himself from any of his Creatures, but tho' he cannot withdraw his Essence from us, which would argue an Imperfection in him, he can withdraw from us all the Joys and Confolations of it. His Presence may perhaps be necessary to support us in our Existence; but he may leave this our Existence to itself, with Regard to its Happiness or Mifery. For, in this Sense, he may cast us away from his Presence, and take his holy Spirit from us. fingle Confideration one would think fufficient to make us open our Hearts to all those Infusions of Joy and Gladness which are so near at Hand, and ready to be poured in upon us; especially when we consider, Secondly, The deplorable Condition of an intellectual Being who feels no other Effects from his Maker's Presence, but such as proceed from divine Wrath and Indignation!

We may affure ourselves that the great Author of Nature will not always be as one, who is indifferent to any of his Creatures. Those who will not feel him in his Love, will be sure at length to feel him in his Displeasure. And how dreadful is the Condition of that Creature, who is only sensible of the Being of his Creator by what he suffers from him! He is as essentially present in Hell as in Heaven, but the Inhabitants of those accursed Places behold him only in his Wrath, and shrink within the Flames to conceal themselves from him. It is not in the Power of Imagination to conceive the fearful Essects of Omnipotence incensed.

But I shall only consider the Wretchedness of an intellectual Being, who, in this Life, lies under the Displeasure of him, that at all Times and in all Places

is intimately united with him. He is able to disquiet the Soul, and vex it in all its Faculties. He can hinder any of the greatest Comforts of Life from refreshing us, and give an Edge to every one of its slightest Calamities. Who then can bear the Thought of being an Out-cast from his Presence, that is, from the Comforts of it, or of feeling it only in its Terrors? How pathetick is that Expostulation of Job, when for the Trial of his Patience, he was made to look upon himself in this deplorable Condition! Why hast thou set me as a Mark against thee, so that I am become a Burden to myself? But, Thirdly, how happy is the Condition of the it intellectual Being, who is sensible of his Maker's Presence from the secret Essects of his Mercy and Loving kindness.

THE Bleffed in Heaven behold him Face to Face; that is, are as fensible of his Presence as we are of the Presence of any Person whom we look upon with There is doubtless a Faculty in Spirits, by which they apprehend one another, as our Senses of material Objects; and there is no Question but ou Souls, when they are difembodied, or placed in glo rified Bodies, will by this Faculty in whatfoever Part of Space they refide, be always fenfible of the divine Presence. We, who have this Veil of Flesh standing between us and the World of Spirits, must be con tent to know that the Spirit of God is present with us by the Effects which he produceth in us. Our out ward Senses are too gross to apprehend him; w may however taste and see how gracious he is, by his Influence upon our Minds, by those virtuoz Thoughts which he awakens in us, by those fects Comforts and Refreshments which he conveys into our Souls, and by those ravishing Joys and inwant Satisfactions, which are perpetually springing up, and diffusing themselves among all the Thoughts of god Men. He is lodged in our very Essence, and is as 1 Soul within the Soul, to irradiate its Understanding rectify its Will, purify its Passions, and enliven all the Powers of Man. How happy therefore is an inteller tual Being, who, by Prayer and Meditation, by Vi

No. 57 tue and tween G frowns u he has hi cheer his Horrors er is at I else can him. In to that Soul, and ry, and tude and with the felf fuch lightful t versation he confi else but stands be is always

> Maker's Goodness Thought may hav his holy S our Hear light thu turecould able Paff ritus bono admodum holy Spi good and ner that with thos If a Man will love Abode wi

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tue and good Works, opens this Communication between God and his own Soul! Tho' the whole Creation frowns upon him, and all Nature looks black about him, he has his Light and Support within him, that are able to cheer his Mind, and bear him up in the Midst of all those Horrors which encompass him. He knows that his Helper is at Hand, and is always nearer him than any Thing else can be, which is capable of annoying or terrifying him. In the midst of Calumny or Contempt, he attends to that Being which whispers better things within his Soul, and whom he looks upon as his Defender, his Glory, and the Lifter up of his Head. In his deepest Solitude and Retirement, he knows that he is in Company with the greatest of Beings; and perceives within himfelf such real Sensations of his Presence, as are more delightful than any thing that can be met with in the Conversation of his Creatures. Even in the Hour of Death, he confiders the Pains of his Diffolution to be nothing elfe but the breaking down of that Partition, which stands betwixt his Soul, and the Sight of that Being, who is always present with him, and is about to manifest it felf to him in Fulness of Joy.

IF we would be thus happy, and thus fensible of our Maker's Presence, from the secret Effects of his Mercy and Goodness, we must keep such a Watch over all our Thoughts, that, in the Language of the Scripture, his Soul may have Pleasure in us. We must take care not to grieve his holy Spirit, and endeavour to make the Meditations of our Hearts always acceptable in his Sight, that he may delight thus to refide and dwell in us. The Light of Nature could direct Seneca to this Doctrine, in a very remarkable Passage among his Epistles; Sacer inest in nobis spiritus bonorum malorumque custos, & Observator, & quemadmodum nos illum tractamus, ita & ille nos. There is a holy Spirit refiding in us, who watches and observes both good and evil Men, and will treat us after the same manner that we treat him. But I shall conclude this Discourse with those more emphatical Words in Divine Revelation, If a Manlove me, he will keep my Word, and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our

Abade with him.

No. 572. Monday, July 26.

Quod medicorum est Promittant medici

Hor.

Am the more pleased with these my Papers, fince! find they have encouraged several Men of Learning and Wit to become my Correspondents: I Yesterday received the following Essay against Quacks, which I shall here communicate to my Readers for the Good of the Publick, begging the Writer's Pardon for those Additions and Retrenchments which I have made in it.

HE Defire of Life is fo natural and strong a Passion, that I have long fince ceased to wonder at the great Encouragement which the Practice of Physick finds among us. Well-conflituted Governments have always made the Profession of a Physician both honourable and advantageous. Homer's Machaon and Virgil's Japis were Men of Renown, Heroes in War, and made at least as much Havock among their Enemies as among their Friends. Those who have little or no Faith in the Abilities of a Quack will apply themselves to him, either because he is willing to fell Health at a reasonable Profit, or because the Patient, like a drowning Man, catches at every Twig, and hopes for Relief from the most Ignorant, when the most able Physicians give him none. Though Impudence and many Words are as necessary to these Itinerary Galen: as a laced Hat, or a Merry Andrew, yet they would turn very little to the Advantage of the Owner, if there were not some inward Disposition in the sick Man to favour the Pretentions of the Mountebank. Life

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THERE is scarce a City in Great Britain but has one fthis Tribe, who takes it into his Protection, and on the Market-Day harangues the good People of the Place with Aphorisms and Receipts. You may depend upon it, he omes not there for his own private Interest, but out of a particular Affection to the Town. I remember one f those Publick-spirited Artists at Hammersmith, who old his Audience, ' that he had been born and bred there, and that having a special Regard for the Place of his Nativity, he was determined to make a Prefent of five Shillings to as many as would accept of it." The whole Crowd stood agape, and ready to take the Doctor at his Word; when putting his Hand into long Bag, as every one was expecting his Crown-Piece, he drew out a Handful of little Packets, each of which he informed the Spectators was constantly fold at five shillings and fix Pence, but that he would bate the odd five Shillings to every Inhabitant of that Place: The whole Assembly immediately closed with this geerous Offer, and took off all his Physick, after the Docor had made them vouch for one another, that there were no Foreigners among them, but that they were all Hammer smith Men.

THERE is another Branch of Pretenders to this Art. who, without either Horse or Pickle-Herring, lie snug n a Garret, and fend down Notice to the World of their extraordinary Parts and Abilities by printed Bills and Advertisements. These seem to have derived their Custom from an Eastern Nation which Herodotus speaks of, among whom it was a Law, that whenever any Cure was performed, both the Method of the Cure. and an Account of the Distemper, should be fixed in ome publick Place; but as Customs will corrupt, these our Moderns provide themselves of Persons to attest the Cure, before they publish or make an Experiment of the Prescriptions. I have heard of a Porter, who erves as a Knight of the Post under one of these Opeators, and tho' he was never fick in his Life, has been cured of all the Diseases in the Dispensary. These are the Men whose Sagacity has invented Elixirs of all forts, Pills and Lozenges, and take it as affront if you come to them before you are given over by every Body else. Their Medicines are infallible and never fail of Success, that is of enriching the Doctor, and

fetting the Patient effectually at Rest.

I lately dropt into a Coffee house at Westminster. where I found the Room hung round with Ornaments There were Elixirs, Tinctures, the of this Nature. Anodine Fotus, English Pills, Electuaries; and, in short, more Remedies than I believe there are Difeases. At the Sight of fo many Inventions, I could not but imagine myfelf in a kind of Arfenal or Magazine, where store of Arms was reposited against any sudden Inva-Should you be attack'd by the Enemy fide-ways, here was an infallible Piece of defensive Armour to cure the Pleurifie: Should a Distemper beat up your Head Quarters, here you might purchase an impenetrable Helmet, or, in the Language of the Artift, a Cephalic Tincture: If your main Body be affaulted, here are various Kinds of Armour in case of various Onfets. I began to congratulate the present Age upon the Happinels Men might reasonably hope for in Life, when Death was thus in a manner defeated; and when Pain it felf would be of so short a Duration, that it would but just serve to enhance the Value of Pleasure: While I was in these Thoughts, I unluckily called to mind a Story of an ingenious Gentleman of the lat Age, who lying violently afflicted with the Gout, a Person came and offered his Service to cure him by a Method, which he affured him was infallible; the Servant who received the Message carried it up to his Mafter, who enquiring whether the Person came on Foot or in a Chariot; and being informed that he was on Foot: Go, fays he, fend the Knave about his Business: Was his Method as infallible as he pretends, he would long before now have been in his Coach and Six. In like manner I concluded, that had all those Advertisers arrived to that Skill they pretend to, they would have had no Need for fo many Years successively to publish to the World the Place of their Abode, and the Virtues of

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their Medicines. One of these Gentlemen indeed pretends to an effectual Cure for Leanness: What Effects it may have had upon those who have try'd it I cannot tell; but I am credibly informed, that the Call for it has been so great, that it has effectually cured the Doctor himself of that Distemper. Could each of them produce so good an Instance of the Success of his Medicines, they might soon persuade the World into an Opinion of them.

I Observe that most of the Bills agree in one Expression, viz. that (with God's Blessing) they perform such and such Cures: This Expression is certainly very proper and emphatical, for that is all they have for it. And if ever a Cure is performed on a Patient where they are concerned, they can claim no greater Share in it than Virgil's Japis in the curing of Æneas; he tried his Skill, was very assiduous about the Wound, and indeed was the only visible Means that relieved the Heroe; but the Poet assures us it was the particular Assistance of a Deity that speeded the Operation. An English Reader may see the whole Story in Mr. Dryden's Translation.

Prop'd on his Lance the pensive Heroe stood, And beard, and saw unmow'd, the Mourning Crowd. The fam'd Physician tucks his Robes around, With ready Hands, and hastens to the Wound. With gentle Touches he performs his Part, This Way and that, foliciting the Dart, And exercises all his Heav'nly Art. All softning Simples, known of Sow reign Use, He presses out, and pours their noble Juice; These first infus'd, to lenify the Pain, He tugs with Pincers, but he tugs in vain. Then to the Patron of his Art he pray'd; The Patron of his Art refus'd his Aid. But now the Goddess Mother, mov'd with Grief, And pierc'd with Pity, hastens her Relief. A Branch of healing Dittany she brought, Which in the Cretan Fields with Care she fought;

Rough is the Stem, which woolly Leaves surround; The Leaves with Flow'rs, the Flow'rs with Purple crown't Well known to wounded Goats; a fure Relief To draw the pointed Steel, and ease the Grief. This Venus brings, in Clouds involv'd; and brews Th' extracted Liquor with Ambrosian Dews, And od'rous Panacee: Unseen she stands, Temp'ring the Mixture with ber heav'nly Hands: And pours it in a Bowl already crown'd With Juice of med cinal Herbs, prepared to bathe the Wound. The Leech, unknowing of Superior Art, Which aids the Cure, with this foments the Part; And in a Moment ceas'd the raging Smart. Stanch'd is the Blood, and in the Bottom stands: The Steel, but scarcely touch'd with tender Hands, Moves up, and follows of its own Accord; And Health and Vigour are at once restor'd. Iapis first perceiv'd the closing Wound; And first the Foootsteps of a God he found: Arms, Arms! he cries: the Sword and Shield prepar, And send the willing Chief, renew'd to War. This is no mortal Work, no Cure of mine, Nor Art's Effect, but done by Hands Divine.

No. 573. Wednesday, July 28.

- Castigata remordent.

Juv.

Y Paper on the Club of Widows has brought me in feveral Letters; and, among the rest, a long one from Mrs. Prefident, as follows.

Smart SIR,

TOU are pleased to be very merry, as you imagine, with us Widows: And you feem to

ground your Satyr on our receiving Confolation for 6 food

10.57 foon af are ple ver refl short a fioning. me, my my Une way of Fellow I me up a Maid be could I home ro Custom to fee a I manag the Hou govern 1 rule a Fa sed, which at for my diflike F tions. I fo ignora ted his (paffive bli away my own Land ney broug to establis was in his fort was o to it by a and knew

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foon after the Death of our Dears, and the Number we are pleased to admit for our Companions; but you never reflect what Husbands we have buried, and how fhort a Sorrow the Lofs of them was capable of occafioning. For my own part, Mrs. Prefident as you call me, my first Husband I was married to at Fourteen, by my Uncle and Guardian (as I afterwards discovered) by way of Sale, for the Third Part of my Fortune. This Fellow looked upon me as a meer Child, he might breed me up after his own Fancy; if he kiffed my Chamber-Maid before my Face, I was supposed so ignorant, how could I think there was any Hurt in it? When he came home roaring drunk at Five in the Morning, 'twas the Custom of all Men that live in the World. I was not to see a Penny of Money, for, poor Thing, how could I manage it? He took a handsome Cousin of his into the House, (as he said) to be my House-keeper, and to govern my Servants; for how should I know how to rule a Family? and while she had what Money she pleased, which was but reasonable for the Trouble she was at for my Good, I was not to be fo censorious as to diflike Familiarity and Kindness between near Relations. I was too great a Coward to contend, but not so ignorant a Child to be thus imposed upon. I refented his Contempt as I ought to do, and as most poor passive blinded Wives do, 'till it pleased Heaven to take away my Tyrant, who left me free Poffession of my own Land, and a large Jointure. My Youth and Money brought me many Lovers, and feveral endeavoured to establish an Interest in my Heart while my Husband was in his last Sickness; the Honourable Edward Waitfort was one of the first who addressed to me, advised to it by a Coufin of his that was my intimate Friend, and knew to a Penny what I was worth. Mr. Waitfort is a very agreeable Man, and every Body would like him as well as he does himfelf, if they did not plainly fee that his Esteem and Love is all taken up, and by such an Obect as 'tis impossible to get the better of, I mean himfelf. He made no doubt of marrying me within Four or Five Months, and begun to proceed with fuch an Vol. VIII.

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affured eafy Air, that piqued my Pride not to banish him; quite contrary, out of pure Malice, I heard his first Declaration with so much innocent Surprize, and · blushed so prettily, I perceived it touched his very Heart, and he thought me the best-natured filly poor Thing on · Earth. When a Man has fuch a Notion of a Woman. he loves her better than he thinks he does. I was over. · joy'd to be thus revenged on him, for defigning on my · Fortune; and finding it was in my Power to make his · Heart ake, I resolved to compleat my Conquest, and entertain'd several other Pretenders. The first Impres. · fion of my undefigning Innocence was fo strong in his · Head, he attributed all my Followers to the inevitable · Force of my Charms, and from feveral Blushes and fide · Glances, concluded himself the Favourite; and when · used him like a Dog for my Diversion, he thought it was all Prudence and Fear, and pitied the Violence Idid my own Inclinations to comply with my Friends, when I marry'd Sir Nicholas Fribble of Sixty Years of Age. You know, Sir, the Case of Mrs. Medlar, I hope you would not have had me cry out my Eyes for fuch a Hulband. I shed Tears enough for my Widowhood a Week after my Marriage, and when he was put in his Grave, reckoning he had been two Years dead, and my felfa · Widow of that Standing, I married three Weeks afterwards John Sturdy, Esq; his next Heir. I had indeed fome Thoughts of taking Mr. Waitfort, but I found he could stay, and besides he thought it indecents ask me to marry again till my Year was out, fo private Iy resolving him for my Fourth, I took Mr. Sturdy for the present. Would you believe it, Sir, Mr. Sturdy wa · just Five and Twenty, about Six Foot high, and the floutest Fox-hunter in the Country, and I believel wished ten thousand times for my old Fribble again; it was following his Dogs all the Day, and all the Night Glory w · keeping them up at Table with him and his Compani made me ons: however I think my felf obliged to them for lead I propoi ing him a Chase in which he broke his Neck. Mr. Wait the Joys

fort began his Addresses anew, and I verily believe lim

· married him now, but there was a young Officer in the

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Guards, that had debauched two or three of my Acquaintance, and I could not forbear being a little vain of his Courtship. Mr. Waitfort heard of it, and read me ' fuch an insolent Lecture upon the Conduct of Women, I married the Officer that very Day, out of pure Spight to him. Half an Hour after I was married, I received a penitential Letter from the Honourable Mr. Edward Waitfort, in which he begged Pardon for his Passion, as proceeding from the Violence of his Love: I triumphed when I read it, and could not help, out of the Pride of my Heart, shewing it to my new Spouse; and we were very merry together upon it. Alas! my Mirth lasted a short Time; my young Husband was very much in debt when I marry'd him, and his first Action afterwards was to fet up a gilt Chariot and Six, in fine Trappings before and behind. I had married to hastily, I had not the Prudence to referve my Estate in my own Hands; my ready Money was lost in two Nights at the Groom Porter's; and my Diamond Necklace, which was stole I did not know how, I met in the Street upon Jenny Wheadle's Neck. My Plate vanished Piece by Piece, and I had been reduced to downright Pewter, if my Officer had not been deliciously killed in a Duel, by a Fellow that had cheated him of Five hundred Pounds, and afterwards, at his own Request, fatisfy'd him and me too, by running him through the Body. Mr. Waitfort was still in Love, and told me so again; and to prevent all Fears of ill Usage, he desir'd me to reserve every Thing in my own Hands: But now my Acquaintance begun to wish me Joy of his Constancy, my Charms were declining, and I could not refift the Delight I took in shewing the young Flirts about Town, it was yet in my Power to give Pain to a Man of Sense: This, and some private Hopes he would hang himself, and what a Glory would it be for me, and how I should be envy'd, made me accept of being third Wife to my Lord Friday. I proposed from my Rank and his Estate, to live in all the Joys of Pride, but how was I mistaken? he was neither extravagant, nor ill-natured, nor debauched; I fuffered however more with him than with all my others. D 2

hearkening to his imaginary Ails; it was impossible to tell what would please him; what he liked when the Sun shined, made him fick when it rained; he had no

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Distemper, but lived in constant Fear of them all; my good Genius dictated to me to bring him acquainted with Doctor Gruel; from that Day he was always con-

tented, because he had Names for all his Complaints; the good Doctor furnished him with Reasons for all

his Pains, and Prescriptions for every Fancy that troubled him; in hot Weather he lived upon Juleps, and let

blood to prevent Fevers; when it grew cloudy he generally apprehended a Confumption. To shorten the

History of this wretched Part of my Life, he ruined a good Constitution by endeavouring to mend it, and took

· feveral Medicines, which ended in taking the grand Remedy, which cured both him and me of all our Uneafi-

nesses. After his Death, I could not expect to hear any

more of Mr. Waitfort, I knew he had renounced me to all his Friends, and been very witty upon my Choice,

which he affected to talk of with great Indifferency; I

gave over thinking of him, being told that he was en-

gaged with a pretty Woman and a great Fortune; it vexed me a little, but not enough to make me negled

the Advice of my Coufin Wifbwell, that came to fee me the Day my Lord went into the Country with Russel;

fhe told me experimentally, nothing put an unfaithful Lover and a dear Husband fo foon out of one's Head,

as a new one; and, at the same Time, propos'd to me a Kinsman of hers: You understand enough of the

· World (said she) to know Money is the most valuable

· Confideration; he is very rich, and I am fure cannot · live long; he has a Cough that must carry him off soon.

· I knew afterwards she had given the felf-same Charac-

ter of me to him; but however I was fo much perfuaded by her, I hastned on the Match, for fear he should de

• before the Time came; he had the same Fears, and was fo pressing, I married him in a Fortnight, resolving to

· keep it private a Fortnight longer. During this Fort-

night Mr. Waitfort came to make mea Visit; he told me

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thoufar but we he had waited on me fooner, but had that Respect for me, he would not interrupt me in the first Day of my · Affliction for my dead Lord; that as foon as he heard I was at Liberty to make another Choice, he had broke off a Match very advantageous for his Fortune, just ' upon the Point of Conclusion, and was forty times more in Love with me than ever. I never received " more Pleasure in my Life than from this Declaration, but I composed my Face to a grave Air, and faid the · News of his Engagement had touched me to the Heart, that in a rash jealous Fit, I had married a Man I could ' never have thought on if I had not lost all hopes of him. Good-natured Mr. Waitfort had like to have ' dropped down dead at hearing this, but went from me ' with fuch an Air as plainly shewed me he laid all the Blame upon himself, and hated those Friends that had ' advised him to the fatal Application; he seemed as much ' touched by my Misfortune as his own, for he had not ' the least Doubt I was still passionately in Love with ' him. The Truth of the Story is, my new Husband gave me Reason to repent I had not staid for him; he ' had married me for my Money, and I foon found he ' loved Money to Distraction; there was nothing he would not do to get it, nothing he would not fuffer to ' preserve it; the smallest Expence kept him awake ' whole Nights, and when he paid a Bill, 'twas with as ' many Sighs, and after as many Delays, as a Man that ' endures the Loss of a Limb. I heard nothing but Reproofs for Extravagancy whatever I did. I faw very ' well that he would have starved me, but for losing my Jointure; and he suffered Agonies between the Grief ' of seeing me have so good a Stomach, and the Fear that ' if he made me fast, it might prejudice my Health. I ' did not doubt he would have broke my Heart, if I ' did not break his, which was allowed by the Law of ' Self-defence. The Way was very eafy. I refolved to ' spend as much Money as I could, and before he was ' aware of the Stroke, appeared before him in a two ' thousand Pound Diamond Necklace; he said nothing, but went quietly to his Chamber, and, as it is thought, D 3 ' compoied

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composed himself with a Dose of Opium. I behaved my felf so well upon the Occasion, that to this Day I believe he died of an Apoplexy. Mr. Waitfort was refolved not to be too late this Time, and I heard from him in two Days. I am almost out of my Weed at this present Writing, and very doubtful whether I'll I do not think of a Seventh, for marry him or no. the ridiculous Reason you mention, but out of pure Morality that I think so much Constancy should be rewarded, though I may not do it after all perhaps. I do not believe all the unreasonable Malice of Mankind can give a Pretence why I should have been conflant to the Memory of any of the Deceased, or have fpent much Time in grieving for an infolent, infignificant, negligent, extravagant, splenetick, or covetous Husband; my first insulted me, my second was nothing to me, my third disgusted me, the fourth would have ruined me, the fifth tormented me, and the fixth would have starved me. If the other Ladies you name would thus give in their Husbands Picture at length, you would fee they have had as little Reafon as my felf to lose their Hours in weeping and wailing.





Friday,

No. 574. Friday, July 30.

Non possidentem multa vocaveris Reste Beatum, restius occupat Nomen Beati, qui Deorum Muneribus sapienter uti Duramque callet pauperiem pati.

Hor.

Was once engaged in Discourse with a Rosicrusian about the great Secret. As this kind of Men (I mean those of them who are not professed Cheats) are over-run with Enthusiasm and Philosophy, it was very amufing to hear this religious Adept descanting on his pretended Discovery. He talked of the Secret as of a Spirit which lived within an Emerald, and converted every thing that was near it to the highest Perfection it was capable of. It gives a Lustre, says he, to the Sun, and Water to the Diamond. It irradiates every Metal, and enriches Lead with all the Properties of Gold. It heightens Smoak into Flame, Flame into Light, and Light into Glory. He further added, that a fingle Ray of it diffipates Pain, and Care, and Melancholy from the Person on whom it falls. In short, says he, its Presence naturally changes every Place into a kind of Heaven. After he had gone on for some Time in this unintelligible Cant, I found that he jumbled natural and moral Ideas together into the same Difcourse, and that his great Secret was nothing else but Content.

THIS Virtue does indeed produce, in some measure, all those Effects which the Alchymist usually ascribes to what he calls the Philosopher's Stone: and if it does not bring Riches, it does the same thing, by banishing the Desire of them. If it cannot remove the Disquietudes arising out of a Man's Mind, Body, or Fortune, it makes him easie under them. It has indeed a kind-

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by Influence on the Soul of Man, in respect of every Be ing to whom he stands related. It extinguishes all Mur. mur, Repining, and Ingratitude towards that Being who has allotted him his Part to act in this World. It destroys all inordinate Ambition, and every Tendency to Corrup. tion, with regard to the Community wherein he is placed. It gives Sweetness to his Conversation, and a perpetual Serenity to all his Thoughts.

AMONG the many Methods which might be made use of for the acquiring of this Virtue, I shall only mention the two following. First of all, A Man should always confider how much he has more than he wants; and Secondly, How much more unhappy he might be

than he really is.

FIRST of all, A Man should always consider how much he has more than he wants. I am wonderfully pleased with the Reply which Aristippus made to one who condoled him upon the Loss of a Farm, Why, faid he, I bave three Farms still, and you have but one; so that! ought rather to be afflicted for you, than you for me. On the contrary, foolish Men are more apt to consider what they have lost than what they posses; and to fix their Eyes upon those who are richer than themselves, rather than those who are under greater Difficulties. All the real Pleasures and Conveniences of Life lie in a narrow Compass; but it is the Humour of Mankind to be always looking forward, and straining after one who has got the Start of them in Wealth and Honour. For this Reason, as there are none can be properly called rich, who have not more than they want; there are few rid Men in any of the politer Nations but among the middle Sort of People, who keep their Wishes within their Fortunes, and have more Wealth than they know how to enjoy. Persons of a higher Rank live in a kind of splendid Poverty, and are perpetually wanting, because instead of acquiescing in the solid Pleasures of Life, they endeavour to outvy one another in Shadows and Ap pearances. Men of Sense have at all times beheld with a great deal of Mirth this filly Game that is playing o ver their Heads, and by contracting their Defires, enjoy all that fecret Satisfaction which others are always 11

quest o imagina it is th undo a he is a naturall him his Brother, ed a gre thanked already : In short, ury to P greeable to which shall the who are ginary I ble of co of Bion So much (piness.

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In the much mo former Co ly provid this regar Misfortur fuch a Co tween hir which he have befa

I like t on breaki the Stande his Neck. give me le who, afte with him, Room in a stood befor quest of. The Truth is, this ridiculous Chace after imaginary Pleasures cannot be sufficiently exposed, as it is the great Source of those Evils which generally undo a Nation. Let a Man's Estate be what it will, he is a poor Man if he does not live within it, and naturally fets himself to Sale to any one that can give him his Price. When Pittacus, after the Death of his Brother, who had left him a good Estate, was offered a great Sum of Money by the King of Lydia, he thanked him for his Kindness, but told him he had already more by half than he knew what to do with. In short, Content is equivalent to Wealth, and Luxury to Poverty; or, to give the Thought a more agreeable Turn, Content is natural Wealth, fays Socrates; to which I shall add, Luxury is artificial Powerty. I shall therefore recommend to the Consideration of those who are always aiming after superfluous and imaginary Enjoyments, and will not be at the Trouble of contracting their Defires, an excellent Saying of Bion the Philosopher; namely, That no Man has so much Care, as he who endeavours after the most Happinefs.

In the second Place, every one ought to reslect how much more unhappy he might be than he really is. The former Consideration took in all those who are sufficiently provided with the Means to make themselves easy; this regards such as actually lie under some Pressure or Missortune. These may receive great Alleviation from such a Comparison as the unhappy Person may make between himself and others, or between the Missortune which he suffers, and greater Missortunes which might

have befallen him.

I like the Story of the honest Dutchman, who, upon breaking his Leg by a Fall from the Mainmast, told
the Standers by, It was a great Mercy that 'twas not
his Neck. To which, since I am got into Quotations,
give me leave to add the Saying of an old Philosopher,
who, after having invited some of his Friends to dine
with him, was ruffled by his Wife that came into the
Room in a Passion, and threw down the Table that
stood before them; Every one, says he, has his Calami-

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we find an Instance to the same Purpose in the Life of Doctor Hammond, written by Bishop Fell. As this good Man was troubled with a Complication of Distemper, when he had the Gout upon him, he used to thank God that it was not the Stone; and when he had the Stone, that he had not both these Distempers on him at the same time.

I cannot conclude this Essay without observing that there was never any System besides that of Christianity, which could effectually produce in the Mind of Man the Virtue I have been hitherto speaking of. In order to make us content with our present Condition, many of the ancient Philosophers tell us, that our Discontent only hurts our felves, without being able to make any Alteration in our Circumstances; others, that whatever Evil befals us is derived to us by a fatal Necessity, to which the Gods themselves are subject; whilst other very gravely tell the Man who is miserable, that it is no ceffary he should be so to keep up the Harmony of the Universe, and that the Scheme of Providence would be troubled and perverted were he otherwise. the like Confiderations, rather filence than fatisfy a Man. They may shew him that his Discontent is unreasonable, but are by no means sufficient to relieve it. They rather give Despair than Consolation. In a Word, a Ma might reply to one of these Comforters, as Augustus did to his Friend, who advised him not to grieve for the Death of a Person whom he loved, because his Grid could not fetch him again: It is for that very Reason, faid the Emperor, that I grieve.

On the contrary, Religion bears a more tender Regard to human Nature. It prescribes to every miserable Man the Means of bettering his Condition; nay, is shows him, that the bearing of his Afflictions as be ought to do will naturally end in the Removal of them: It makes him easy here, because it can make him happy

hereafter.

UPON the Whole, a contented Mind is the greated Blessing a Man can enjoy in this World; and if in the present Life his Happiness arises from the subduing of No. 5 his Def

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No. 575. The SPECTATOR. 71 his Desires, it will arise in the next from the Gratisication of them.

No. 575. Monday, August 2.

_ Nec morti esse locum.

Virg.

LEWD young Fellow feeing an aged Hermit go by him barefoot, Father, fays he, you are in a very miserable Condition if there is not another World. True Son, faid the Hermit; but what is thy Condition if there is? Man is a Creature defigned for two different States of Being, or rather, for two different Lives. His first Life is short and transfient; his second permanent and lasting. The Question we are all concerned in is this, In which of these two Lives it is our thief Interest to make our selves happy? Or, in other Words, Whether we should endeavour to secure to our elves the Pleasures and Gratifications of a Life which s uncertain and precarious, and at its utmost Length of a very inconsiderable Duration; or to secure to our elves the Pleasures of a Life which is fixed and fetled, and will never end? Every Man, upon the first learing of this Question, knows very well which Side of it he ought to close with. But however right we ere in Theory, it is plain that in Practice we adhere to the wrong Side of the Question. We make Proviions for this Life as tho' it were never to have an End. ind for the other Life, as tho' it were never to have a Beginning.

SHOULD a Spirit of superior Rank, who is a stranger to human Nature, accidentally alight upon the Earth, and take a Survey of its Inhabitants; what would his Notions of us be? Would not he think that we are a Species of Beings made for quite different and and Purposes than what we really are? Must ot he imagine that we were placed in this World to

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get Riches and Honours? Would not he think that it was our Duty to toil after Wealth, and Station, and Title? Nay, would not he believe we were forbidden Poverty by Threats of eternal Punishment, and enjoyned to pursue our Pleasures under Pain of Damnation? He would certainly imagine that we were influenced by a Scheme of Duties quite opposite to those which are indeed prescribed to us. And truly, according to such an Imagination, he must conclude that we are a Species of the most obedient Creatures in the Universe; that we are constant to our Duty; and that we keep a steddy Eye on the End for which we were sent hither.

But how great would be his Astonishment, when he learnt that we were Beings not defigned to exist a this World above Threescore and Ten Years? and that the greatest Part of this busy Species fall short even d that Age? How would he be lost in Horror and Ad miration, when he should know that this Set of Cra tures, who lay out all their Endeavours for this Life, which scarce deserves the Name of Existence, what I fay, he should know that this Set of Creatures at to exist to all Eternity in another Life, for which the make no Preparations? Nothing can be a greater Di grace to Reason, than that Men, who are perswadd of these two different States of Being, should be perpetually employed in providing for a Life of Three score and Ten Years, and neglecting to make Provi fion for that, which after many Myriads of Years will be ftill new, and ftill beginning; especially when w confider that our Endeavours for making our felves great or rich, or honourable, or whatever else we place of Happiness in, may after all prove unsuccessful; where as if we constantly and fincerely endeavour to make our felves happy in the other Life, we are fure that ou Endeavours will succeed, and that we shall not be dilap pointed of our Hopes.

The following Question is started by one of the Schoolmen. Supposing the whole Body of the Earth were a great Ball or Mass of the finest Sand, and that a fingle Grain or Particle of this Sand should be anni-

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hilated every thousand Years. Supposing then that you had it in your Choice to be happy all the while this prodigious Mass of Sand was consuming by this slow Method till there was not a Grain of it left, on Condition you were to be miserable for ever after; or, supposing that you might be happy for ever after, on Condition you would be miserable till the whole Mass of Sand were thus annihilated at the Rate of one Sand in a thousand Years: Which of these two Cases would you make your Choice?

IT must be confessed in this Case, so many thoufands of Years are to the Imagination as a kind of Eternity, though in Reality they do not bear so great a Proportion to that Duration which is to follow them, as an Unite does to the greatest Number which you can put together in Figures, or as one of those Sands to the suppofed Heap. Reason therefore tells us, without any manner of Hesitation, which would be the better Part in this Choice. However, as I have before intimated, our Reafon might in such Case be so overset by the Imagination, as to dispose some Persons to fink under the Consideration of the great Length of the first Part of this Duration, and of the great Distance of that second Duration which is to The Mind, I fay, might give it felf up to fucceed it. that Happiness which is at hand, considering that it is so very near, and that it would last so very long. But when the Choice we actually have before us is this, Whether we will chuse to be happy for the Space of only Threescore and ten, nay perhaps of only Twenty or Ten Years, I might fay of only a Day or an Hour, and miterable to all Eternity; or, on the contrary, miserable for this short Term of Years, and happy for a whole Eternity: What Words are fufficient to express that Folly and want of Confideration which in fuch a Case makes a wrong Choice?

I here put the Case even at the worst, by supposing (what seldom happens) that a Course of Virtue makes us miserable in this Life: But if we suppose (as it generally happens) that Virtue would make us more happy even in this Life than a contrary Course of Vice; how can we sufficiently admire the Stupidity or Madness of

those

The SPECTATOR. No. 576. 74 those Persons who are capable of making so absurd,

Choice?

EVERY wise Man therefore will consider this Life only as it may conduce to the Happiness of the other, and chearfully facrifice the Pleasures of a few Years to those of an Eternity.

No. 176. Wednesday, August 4.

Nitor in adversum; nec me, qui cætera, vincit Impetus; & rapido contrarius evehor orbi. Ovid.

Remember a young Man of very lively Parts, and of a sprightly I urn in Conversation, who had only one Fault, which was an inordinate Defire of appearing fashionable. This ran him into many Amours, and confequently into many Distempers. He never went to Bed till two a-Clock in the Morning, because he would not be a queer Fellow, and was every now and then knocked down by a Constable, to fignalize his Vivacity. He was initiated into half a dozen Clubs before he was One and twenty, and so improved in them his natural Gaiety of Temper, that you might frequently trace him to his Lodgings by a Range of broken Windows, and other the like Monuments of Wit and Gallantry. To be short, after having fully established his Reputation of being a very agreeable Rake, he died of old Age at five and twenty.

THERE is indeed nothing which betrays a Man into so many Errors and Inconveniences, as the Delire of not appearing fingular; for which Reason it is very necessary to form a right Idea of Singularity, that we may know when it is laudable, and when it is vicious. In the first Place, every Man of Sense will agree with me, that Singularity is laudable, when, in Contradiction to a Multitude, it adheres to the Dictates of Conscience, Morality and Honour. In these Cases we

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No. 576. The SPECTATOR.

ought to confider, that it is not Custom, but Duty, which is the Rule of Action; and that we should be only fo far sociable, as we are reasonable Creatures. Truth is never the less fo, for not being attended to; and it is the Nature of Actions, not the Number of Actors, by which we ought to regulate our Behaviour. Singularity in Concerns of this Kind is to be looked upon as heroick Bravery, in which a Man leaves the Species only as he foars above it. What greater Instance can there be of a weak and pufillanimous Temper, than for a Man to pass his whole Life in Opposition to his own Sentiments? or not to dare to be what he thinks he

ought to be?

SINGULARITY therefore is only vicious when it makes Men act contrary to Reason, or when it puts them upon diftinguishing themselves by Trifles. As for the first of these, who are singular in any Thing that is irreligious, immoral or dishonourable, I believe every one will eafily give them up. I shall therefore speak of those only who are remarkable for their Singularity in Things of no Importance, as in Drefs, Behaviour, Conversation, and all the little Intercourses of Life. In these Cases there is a certain Deference due to Custom; and notwithstanding there may be a Colour of Reason to deviate from the Multitude in some Particulars, a Man ought to facrifice his private Inclinations and Opinions to the Practice of the Publick. It must be confessed that good Sense often makes a Humourist; but then it unqualifies him for being of any moment in the World, and renders him ridiculous to Persons of a much inferior Understanding.

I have heard of a Gentleman in the North of England, who was a remarkable Instance of this foolish Singularity. He had laid it down as a Rule within himself, to act in the most indifferent Parts of Life according to the most abstracted Notions of Reason and good Sense, without any Regard to Fashion or Example. This Humour broke out at first in many little Oddnesses: He had never any stated Hours for his Dinner, Supper or Sleep; because, said he, we ought to attend the Calls of Nature, and not set our Appetites to our Meals, but

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bring our Meals to our Appetites. In his Conversation with Country Gentlemen, he would not make use of a Phrase that was not strictly true: He never told any of them, that he was his humble Servant, but that he was his Well-wisher; and would rather be thought a Male. content, than drink the King's Health when he was not a-dry. He would thrust his Head out of his Chamber Window every Morning, and after having gaped for fresh Air about half an Hour, repeat fifty Verses as loud as he could bawl them for the Benefit of his Lungs; to which End he generally took them out of Homer; the Greek Tongue, especially in that Author, being more deep and fonorous, and more conducive to Expectoration, than any other. He had many other Particularities, for which he gave found and philosophical Reasons. As this Humour still grew upon him, he chose to wear a Turban instead of a Perriwig; concluding very justly, that a Bandage of clean Linnen about his Head was much more wholelome, as well as cleanly, than the Cawl of a Wig, which is foiled with frequent Perspirations. He afterwards judiciously observed, that the many Ligatures in our English Dress must naturally check the Circulation of the Blood; for which Reason he made his Breeches and his Doublet of one continued Piece of Cloth, after the manner of the Huffars. In short, by following the pure Dictates of Reason, he at length departed so much from the rest of his Countrymen, and indeed from his whole Species, that his Friends would have clapped him into Bedlam, and have begged his Estate; but the Judge being informed that he did no Harm, contented himself with issuing out a Commission of Lunacy against him, and putting his Estate into the Hands of proper Guardians.

THE Fate of this Philosopher puts me in Mind of a Remark in Monsieur Fontenelle's Dialogues of the Dead. The Ambitious and the Covetous (says he) are Madmen to all Intents and Purposes, as much as those who are shut up in dark Rooms; but they have the good Luct to have Numbers on their Side; whereas the Frenzy of our who is given up for a Lunatick, is a Frenzy hors d'oeuvre; that is, in other Words, something which is singular in

No. 577. The SPECTATOR. 77 its Kind, and does not fall in with the Madness of a Multitude.

THE Subject of this Essay was occasioned by a Letter which I receiv'd not long since, and which for want of Room at present, I shall insert in my next Paper.

No. 577. Friday, August 6.

Et furere incipias _____

Juv.

THE Letter mentioned in my last Paper is as follows.

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You have so lately decry'd that Custom, too much in use among most People, of making themselves the Subject of their Writings and Conversation, that I had some Difficulty to persuade my self to give you this Trouble, till I had considered that tho' I should speak in the First Person, yet I could not be justly charged with Vanity, since I shall not add my Name; as also, because what I shall write will not, to to say the best, redound to my praise; but is only designed to remove a Prejudice conceived against me, as I hope with very little Foundation. My short History is this:

London, till about a Month ago an Acquaintance of mine, for whom I have done fome small Services in Town, invited me to pass Part of the Summer with him at his House in the Country. I accepted his Invitation, and found a very hearty Welcome. My Friend, an honest plain Man, not being qualified to pass away his Time without the Reliefs of Business, has grafted the Farmer upon the Gentleman, and brought himself to submit even to the service Parts

of that Employment, fuch as respecting his Plough, and the like. This necessarily takes up some of his Hours every Day; and as I have no Relish for such Diversions, I used at these Times to retire either to my Chamber or a shady Walk near the House, and enter. tain myfelf with some agreeable Author. Now, you must know, Mr. Spectator, that when I read, especially if it be Poetry, it is very usual with me, when I meet with any Passage or Expression which strikes me much, to pronounce it aloud, with that Tone of the Voice which I think agreeable to the Sentiments there expressed; and to this I generally add fome Motion or Action of the Body. It was not long before I was observed by some of the Family in one of these Heroick Fits, who thereupon received Impressions very much to my Disadvantage. This however I did not foon discover, nor should have done probably, had it not been for the following Accident. I had one Day shut myself up in my Chamber, and was very deeply engaged in the Second Book of Mil-" ton's Paradise Lost. I walked to and fro with the Book in my Hand, and, to speak the Truth, I fear I made no little Noise; when presently coming to the following Lines,

With impetuous Recoil and jarring Sound, Th' infernal Doors, and on their Hinges grate Harsh Thunder, &c.

I in great Transport threw open the Door of my Chamber, and found the greatest Part of the Family standing on the Outside in a very great Consternation. I was in no less Consusion, and begged Pardon for having disturbed them; addressing myself particularly to comfort one of the Children, who received an unlucky Fall in this Action, whilst he was too intently surveying my Meditations through the Key-hole. To be short, after this Adventure I easily observed that great Part of the Family, especially the Women and Children, looked upon me with

No.577 fome Ap tho' he f altogethe ver after the Tabl overhear crazed G mad Lon high Tin folved to confirme Neighbo one Day to fay, w to fleep. 'THE fet Pen to the Evid Certifica pany, an drawing ted to be but shoul therefore can afford of a Man yours is have not should ov always a will fay r fince obs contend t that Mar I will th

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fome Apprehensions of Fear; and my Friend himself, tho' he still continued his Civilities to me, did not seem altogether easy: I took Notice that the Butler was never after this Accident ordered to leave the Bottle upon the Table after Dinner. Add to this that I frequently overheard the Servants mention me by the Name of the crazed Gentleman, the Gentleman a little touched, the mad Londoner, and the like. This made me think it high Time for me to shift my Quarters, which I resolved to do the first handsome Opportunity; and was confirmed in this Resolution by a young Lady in the Neighbourhood who frequently visited us, and who one Day having heard all the fine Things I was able to say, was pleased with a scornful Smile to bid me go to sleep.

'THE first Minute I got to my Lodgings in Town I fet Pen to Paper to defire your Opinion, whether, upon the Evidence before you, I am mad or not. I can bring Certificates that I behave myself soberly before Company, and I hope there is at least some Merit in withdrawing to be mad. Look, you, Sir, I am contented to be esteemed a little touched, as they phrase it, but should be forry to be madder than my Neighbours; therefore, pray let me be as much in my Senies as you can afford. I know I could bring your felf as an Instance of a Man who has confessed talking to himself; but yours is a particular Case, and cannot justify me, who have not kept Silence any Part of my Life. What if I should own myself in Love? You know Lovers are always allowed the Comfort of Soliloguy. — But I will fay no more upon this Subject, because I have long fince observed, the ready Way to be thought mad is to contend that you are not fo; as we generally conclude that Man drunk, who takes Pains to be thought fober. I will therefore leave myself to your Determination; but am the more defirous to be thought in my Senses, that it may be no Discredit to you when I affure you that I have always been very much.

Your Admirer.

P. S. If I must be mad, I desire the young Lady may believe it is for her.

No. 57

The humble Petition of John a Nokes and John a Stila

Sheweth.

THAT your Petitioners have had Caufes depend. ing in Westminster-Hallabove five hundred Year, and that we despair of ever seeing them broughts an Issue: That your Petitioners have not been in " volved in these Law Suits out of any litigious Ten-· per of their own, but by the Instigation of contents cus Persons; that the young Lawyers in our Innst · Court are continually fetting us together by the Ean, and think they do us no Hurt, because they plead in us without a Fee; That many of the Gentlema of the Robe have no other Clients in the World befide us two; That when they have nothing else to do, the make us Plaintiffs and Defendants, tho' they were m ver retained by either of us; That they traduce, condemn, or acquit us, without any manner of Regards our Reputations and good Names in the World. You · Petitioners therefore (being thereunto encouraged by the favourable Reception which you lately gave to ou . Kinsman Blank) do humbly pray, that you will puta · End to the Controversies which have been so long de pending between us your faid Petitioners, and that or · Enmity may not endure from Generation to Generation tion; it being our Refolution to live hereafter at becometh Men of peaceable Dispositions.

And your Petitioners (as in Duty bound) shall ever Pray, &c.

No. 578.

_ Eque Inque fer

HERI Acco fettli ersonal Ide Mr. LO erson prop as Reufon elf; conclu dentity of f Samenes Author) the wan Ove now writ his now, th hat viewed elf, place 1 hat I who write, (wh erial or im o this Poir her this pr

> I was mi pplicable other Day well trans ment wher

Substances.

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Vo. 578. Monday, August 9.

__ Eque feris humana in corpora transit, Inque feras Nostra _____

Ovid.

THERE has been very great Reason, on several Accounts, for the learned World to endeavour at settling what it was that might be said to compose

ersonal Identity:

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Mr. LOCK, after having premised that the Word erfon properly fignifies a thinking intelligent Being that as Reason and Reflection, and can consider itself as it If: concludes, that it is Consciousness alone, and not an dentity of Substance, which makes this personal Identity f Sameness. Had I the same Consciousness (says that Juthor) that I faw the Ark and Noah's Flood, as that I wan Overflowing of the Thames last Winter; or as that now write; I could no more doubt that I who write his now, that faw the Thames overflow last Winter, and hat viewed the Flood at the general Deluge, was the same elf, place that Self in what Substance you please, than hat I who write this am the same My felf now whilst I write, (whether I confift of all the fame Substance maerial or immaterial or no) that I was Yesterday; For as to this Point of being the same Self, it matters not whether this present Self be made up of the same or other Substances.

I was mightily pleased with a Story in some measure applicable to this Piece of Philosophy, which I read the other Day in the Persian Tales, as they are lately very well translated by Mr. Philips; and with an Abridgment whereof I shall here present my Readers.

I shall only premise that these Stories are writ after the

Eastern Manner, but somewhat more correct.

· FADLALLAH, a Prince of great Virtues, for. ceeded his Father Bin-Ortoc, in the Kingdom of Mould

" He reigned over his faithful Subjects for some Time and · lived in great Happiness with his beauteous Conson

Queen Zemroud; when there appeared at his Court; ' young Dervis of so lively and entertaining a Tund

Wit as won upon the Affections of every one he cone versed with. His Reputation grew so fast every Day,

that it at last raised a curiosity in the Prince himselfu

" fee and talk with him. He did so, and far from finding

that common Fame had flatter'd him, he was for · convinced that every Thing he had heard of him fell

' short of the Truth.

" FAD LALL AH immediately lost all manner of Relish for the Conversation of other Men; and as he was

every Day more and more fatisfied of the Abilities

' this Stranger, offered him the first Posts in his king ' dom. The young Dervis, after having thanked him

with a very fingular Modesty, defired to be excused as having made a Vow never to accept of any Employ-

" ment, and preferring a free and independent Stated

· Life to all other Conditions.

'THE King was infinitely charmed with fo great a " Example of Moderation; and tho' he could not go him to engage in a Life of Business, made him how

ever his chief Companion and first Favourite. ' As they were one Day hunting together, and hap pened to be separated from the rest of the Compa ny, the Dervis, entertained Fadlallah with an Account of his Travels and Adventures. After having related to him several Curiosities which he had seen in the Indies, It was in this Place, says he, that I contradd an Acquaintance with an old Brachman, who was the led in the most hidden Powers of Nature: He died with in my Arms, and with his parting Breath community ted to me one of the most valuable of his Secrets, s " Condition I should never reveal it to any Man. The

King immediately reflecting on his young Favourited having refused the late Offers of Greatness he has

" made him, told him he presumed it was the Power

of making Gold. No Sir, fays the Dervis, it is fine

animatin · WHI by them fhot her a fair O Art. Th breathle that of King, fa veral wa the fame Life. 1 mon an (Thing t The Der his Prom iast that excellent fore by a two Caba

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aubat more wonderful than that; it is the Power of reanimating a dead Body, by flinging my own Soul into it. · WHILE he was yet speaking a Doe came bounding by them; and the King who had his Bow ready, thot her through the Heart; telling the Dervis, that a fair Opportunity now offered for him to shew his Art. The young Man immediately left his own Body breathless on the Ground, while at the same Instant that of the Doe was re-animated, she came to the King, fawned upon him, and after having play'd feveral wanton Tricks, fell again upon the Grass; at the same Instant the Body of the Dervis recovered its Life. The King was infinitely pleased at so uncommon an Operation, and conjured his Friend by every Thing that was facred to communicate it to him. The Dervis at first made some Scruple of violating his Promise to the dying Brachman; but told him at last that he found he could conceal nothing from so excellent a Prince; after having obliged him therefore by an Oath to Secrecy, he taught him to repeat two Cabalistick Words, in prenouncing of which the whole Secret confifted. The King impatient to try the Experiment, immediately repeated them as he had been taught, and in an Instant found himself in the Body of the Doe. He had but little Time to contemplate himself in this new Being; for the treacherous Dervis shooting his own Soul into the Royal Corpse, and bending the Prince's own Bow against him, had laid him dead on the Spot, had not the King, who perceived his Intent, fled swiftly to the Woods.

'THE Dervis, now triumphant in his Villany, returned to Mousel, and filled the Throne and Bed of

the unhappy Fadlallah.

'THE first Thing he took care of, in order to secure himself in the Possession of his new-acquired Kingdom, was to issue out a Proclamation, ordering his Subjects to destroy all the Deer in the Realm. The King had perished among the rest, had he not avoided his Pursuers by re-animating the Body of a Nightin-

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gale which he faw lie dead at the Foot of a Tree. It this new Shape he winged his Way in Safety to the Palace, where perching on a Tree which flood near his Queen's Apartment, he filled the whole Place with fo many melodious and melancholy Notes as drew her to the Window. He had the Mortification to fee that instead of being pitied, he only moved the Mirth of his Princess, and of a young Female Slave who was with her. He continued however to serenade her every Morning, 'till at last the Queen, charmed with his Harmony, fent for the Bird-catchers, and ordered them to employ their utmost Skill to put that little Creature into her Possession. The King, pleased with an Opportunity of being once more near his beloved confort, eafily suffered himself to be taken; and when he was presented to her, tho' he shewed a " Fearfulness to be touched by any of the other Ladie, " flew of his own Accord, and hid himself in the Queen's Bosom. Zemroude was highly pleased at the unexpected Fondness of her new Favourite, and ordered him to be kept in an open Cage in her own Apart-" ment. He had there an Opportunity of making his Court to her every Morning, by a thousand little Actions which his Shape allowed him. The Queen ' passed away whole Hours every Day in hearing and playing with him. Fadlallah could even have thought himself happy in this State of Life, had he not frequently endured the inexpressible Torment of seeing the Dervis enter the Apartment, and cares his Queen even in his Presence.

'THE Usurper, amidst his toying with the Princes, would often endeavour to ingratiate himself with her Nightingale; and while the enraged Fadlallah peckid at him with his Bill, beat his Wings, and shewed all the Marks of an impotent Rage, it only afforded his

the Marks of an impotent Rage, it only afforded his Rival and the Queen new Matter for their Diversion.

· ZEMROUDE was likewise fond of a little Lap
· Dog which she kept in her Apartment, and which
· one Night happened to die.

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auit the Shape of the Nightingale, and enliven this new Body. He did so, and the next Morning Zemroude saw her favourite Bird lie dead in the Cage. It is impossible to express her Grief on this Occasion, and when she called to mind all its little Actions, which even appeared to have somewhat in them like Reason, she was inconsolable for her Loss.

HER Women immediately fent for the Dervis, to come and comfort her, who after having in vain represented to her the Weakness of being grieved at such an Accident, touched at last by her repeated Complaints; Well Madam, says he, I will exert the utmost of my Art to please you. Your Nightingale shall again revive every Morning and serenade you as before. The Queen beheld him with a Look which easily shewed she did not believe him; when laying himself down on a Sofa, he shot his Soul into the Nightingale, and Zemroude was amazed to see her Bird revive.

'THE King, who was a Spectator of all that passed, lying under the Shape of a Lap-dog, in one Corner of the Room, immediately recovered his own Body, and running to the Cage with the utmost Indignation, twisted off the Neck of the false Nightingale.

'ZEMROUDE was more than ever amazed and concerned at this fecond Accident, 'till the King entreating her to hear him, related to her his whole Adventure.

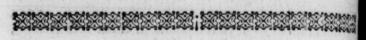
THE Body of the Dervis, which was found dead in the Wood, and his Edict for killing all the Deer, left her no Room to doubt of the Truth of it: But the Story adds, That out of an extream Delicacy (peculiar to the Oriental Ladies) she was so highly afflicted at the innocent Adultery in which she had for some Time lived with the Dervis, that no Arguments even from Fadlallah himself could compose her Mind. She hortly after died with Grief, begging his Pardon with her latest Breath for what the most rigid Justice could not have interpreted as a Crime.

Vol. VIII.

THE King was so afflicted with her Death, the he left his Kingdom to one of his nearest Relation.

* and passed the rest of his Days in Solitude and Retire

" ment.



No. 579. Wednesday, August 11.

Odora canum vis.

Virg.

In the Reign of King Charles I. the Company of Stationers, into whose Hands the Printing of the Bible is committed by Patent, made a very remark ble Erratum or Blunder in one of their Editions: so instead of Thou shalt not commit Adultery, they printed of several thousands of Copies with Thou shalt commit Adultery. Archbishop Laud, to punish this their No gligence, laid a considerable Fine upon that Companyis the Star-chamber.

By the Practice of the World, which prevails into degenerate Age, I am afraid that very many your Profligates, of both Sexes, are possessed of this spurme Edition of the Bible, and observe the Commandant

according to that faulty Reading.

ADULTERERS, in the first Ages of the Church, we excommunicated for ever, and unqualified all their limits from bearing a Part in Christian Assemblies, notwith standing they might seek it with Tears, and all the pearances of the most unseigned Repentance.

I might here mention fome antient Laws among the Heathens which punished this Crime with Death; to there of the same Kind, which are now in Formamong several Governments that have embraced reformed Religion. But because a Subject of this is ture may be too serious for my ordinary Readers, we are very apt to throw by my Papers, when they not enlivened with something that is diverting or not enlivened with something that is diverting or common; I shall here publish the Contents of all the contents of the conten

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Manuscript lately fallen into my Hands, and which pretends to great Antiquity, tho' by Reason of some modern Phrases and other Particulars in it, I can by no Means allow it to be genuine, but rather the Production

of a modern Sophist.

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IT is well known by the Learned, that there was a Temple upon Mount Etna dedicated to Vulcan. which was guarded by Dogs of so exquisite a Smell (say the Historians) that they could discern whether the Perfons who came thither were chaste or otherwise. They used to meet and fawn upon such as were chaste, caref. fing them as the Friends of their Master Vulcan; but flew at those who were polluted, and never ceased barking at them till they had driven them from the Temple.

My Manuscript gives the following Account of these Dogs, and was probably defigned as a Comment upon

this Story.

'THESE Dogs were given to Vulcan by his Sifter Diana, the Goddess of Hunting and of Chastity, having bred them out of some of her Hounds, in which the had observed this natural Instinct and Sagacity. It was thought she did it in Spight to Venus, who, upon her Return home always found her Husband in a good or bad Humour, according to the Reception which she met with from his Dogs. They lived in the Temple several Years, but were such snappish Curs that they frighted away most of the Votaries. The Women of Sicily made a folemn Deputation to the Priest, by which they acquainted him, that they would not come up to the Temple with their annual Offerings unless he muzzled his Mastiffs; and at last compromised the Matter with him, that the Offering should always be brought by a Chorus of young Girls, who were none of them above feven Years old. was wonderful (fays the Author) to see how different the Treatment was which the Dogs gave to these little Misses, from that which they had shewn to their Mothers. It is said that the Prince of Syracuse, having married a young Lady, and being naturally of a jealous Temper, made fuch an Interest with the E 2 Priests

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Priests of this Temple, that he procured a Whelp 88 from them of this famous Breed. The young Puppy

was very troublesome to the fair Lady at first, info much that she sollicited her Husband to send him

away; but the good Man cut her short with the old Sicilian Proverb, Love me love my Dog. From which Time she lived very peaceably with both of them.

The Ladies of Syracuse were very much anneyed

with him, and several of very good Reputation re-· fused to come to Court till he was discarded. There

were indeed some of them that defied his Sagacity,

but it was observed, though he did not actually bit . them, he would growle at them most confoundedly.

To return to the Dogs of the Temple : After they had

· lived here in great Repute for several Years, it so hap pened, that as one of the Priests, who had been mak-

ing a charitable Vifit to a Widow who lived on the

· Promontory of Lilybeum, returned home pretty latein the Evening, the Dogs flew at him with fo much Fa-

* ry, that they would have worried him if his Brethm

· had not come in to his Affistance: Upon which, fan my Author, the Dogs were all of them hanged, a

having loft their original Instinct.

I cannot conclude this Paper without wishing, the we had some of this Breed of Dogs in Great Britain, which would certainly do Justice, I should fay Honou, to the Ladies of our Country, and shew the World the Difference between Pagan Women and those was are instructed in sounder Principles of Virtue and Re-

No. 580.

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_ Si ve Non metu

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treme fence is equally Extent of able to R tings of t large, we tho' the the Imm which he vifible G out in Se Paradise the Habi rified Boo celestial Angels, Seat of (This is t call his He is in in this, Magnific which ca

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our first World, ** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** **

Friday, August 13. No. 580.

_ Si verbo audacia detur, Non metuam magni dixisse palatia Cæli. Ovid. Met.

SIR.

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T Confidered in my two last Letters that awful and tremendous Subject, the Ubiquity or Omniprefence of the divine Being. I have shown that he is equally present in all Places throughout the whole Extent of an infinite Space. This Doctrine is so agreeable to Reason, that we meet with it in the Writings of the enlightened Heathens, as I might show at large, were it no already done by other Hands. But tho' the Deity be thus effentially present, through all the Immensity of Space, there is one Part of it in which he discovers himself in a most transcendent and visible Glory. This is that Place which is marked out in Scripture under the different Appellations of Paradise, the third Heaven, the Throne of God, and the Habitation of his Glory. It is here where the glorified Body of our Saviour refides, and where all the celestial Hierarchies, and the innumerable Hosts of Angels, are represented as perpetually surrounding the Seat of God with Hallelujahs and Hymns of Praise. This is that Presence of God which some of the Divines call his glorious, and others his majestick Presence. He is indeed as effentially present in all other Places as in this, but it is here where he resides in a sensible Magnificence, and in the midst of all those Splendors which can affect the Imagination of created Beings. 'IT is very remarkable that this Opinion of God Almighty's Presence in Heaven, whether discovered by

the Light of Nature, or by a general Tradition from our first Parents, prevails among all the Nations of the World, whatsoever different Notions they entertain

Pril

of the Godhead. If you look into Homer, that is, the most antient of the Greek Writers, you see the supreme Powers seated in the Heavens, and encompassed with

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inferior Deities, among whom the Muses are reprefented as singing incessantly about his Throne. Who

does not here see the main Strokes and Outlines of this great Truth we are speaking of? The same Doc-

trine is shadowed out in many other Heathen Authors,

tho at the same time, like several other revealed. Truths, dashed and adulterated with a Mixture of Fa-

bles and human Inventions. But to pass over the

Notions of the Greeks and Romans, those more enligh-

tened Parts of the Pagan World, we find there is fcarce a People among the late discovered Nations

who are not trained up in an Opinion, that Heaven

is the Habitation of the Divinity whom they worship.
As in Solomon's Temple there was the Sanctum Sanc-

torum, in which a visible Glory appeared among the Figures of the Cherubims, and into which none but

the High Priest himself was permitted to enter, after

having made an Atonement for the Sins of the People;

fo if we confider the whole Creation as one great

Temple, there is in it this Holy of Holies, into which the High-Priest of our Salvation entered, and took

his Place among Angels and Archangels, after having

* made a Propitiation for the Sins of Mankind.

* WITH how much Skill must the Throne of God

* be erected? With what glorious Designs is that Habi-

tation beautified, which is contrived and built by him

who inspired Hyram with Wisdom? How great must be the Majesty of that Place, where the whole

Art of Creation has been employed, and where God

has chofen to show himself in the most magnificent

manner? What must be the Architecture of infinite.
Power under the Direction of infinite Wisdom?

Spirit cannot but be transported after an inefiable man-

e ner, with the Sight of those Objects, which were

made to affect him by that Being who knows the inward Frame of the Soul, and how to please and no

vish it in all its most secret Powers and Facultie.

It is to this majestick Presence of God, we may ap

No. 58 ply tho even to not pure the Glo weak ar felf, in pass the As t Imagina is Light far that in perfec it is not immeafu any crea thefe lov and mag rishable Courts o fidence in felf in th rable Co made per · THIS raifed too nipotence themselve Scene infi are able to Confumm ments of ings who to that gl

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ply those beautiful Expressions in holy Writ: Behold even to the Moon, and it shineth not; yea the Stars are not pure in his Sight. The Light of the Sun, and all the Glories of the World in which we live, are but as weak and sickly Glimmerings, or rather Darkness itself, in comparison of those Splendors which encom-

pass the Throne of God.

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As the Glery of this Place is transcendent beyond Imagination, fo probably is the Extent of it. There is Light behind Light, and Glory within Glory. How far that Space may reach, in which God thus appears in perfect Majesty, we cannot possibly conceive. Tho' it is not infinite, it may be indefinite; and though not immeasureable in it self, it may be so with regard to any created Eye or Imagination. If he has made these lower Regions of Matter so inconceivably wide and magnificent for the Habitation of mortal and perishable Beings, how great may we suppose the Courts of his House to be, where he makes his Refidence in a more especial manner, and displays himfelf in the Fulness of his Glory, among an innumerable Company of Angels, and Spirits of just Men made perfect ?

This is certain, that our Imaginations cannot be raifed too high, when we think on a Place where Omnipotence and Omnifcience have so signally exerted themselves, because that they are able to produce a Scene infinitely more great and glorious than what we are able to imagine. It is not impossible but at the Consummation of all Things, these outward Apartments of Nature, which are now suited to those Beings who inhabit them, may be taken in and added to that glorious Place of which I am here speaking; and by that means made a proper Habitation for Beings who are exempt from Mortality, and cleared of their Impersections: For so the Scripture seems to intimate when it speaks of new Heavens and of a new Earth, wherein dwelleth Righteousness.

'I have only confidered this glorious Place, with regard to the Sight and Imagination, though it is highly probable that our other Senses may here likewise

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enjoy their highest Gratifications. There is nothing which more ravishes and transports the Soul, than · Harmony; and we have great Reason to believe, from the Descriptions of this Place in Holy Scripture, that this is one of the Entertainments of it. And if the Soul of Man can be fo wonderfully affected with those Strains of Musick, which Human Art is a. pable of producing, how much more will it be raifed and elevated by those, in which is exerted the whole Power of Harmony! The Senses are Faculties of the Human Soul, the' they cannot be employed, do. ring this our vital Union, without proper Infire. ments in the Body. Why therefore should we exclude the Satisfaction of these Faculties, which we find by Experience are Inlets of great Pleasure to the Soul, from among those Entertainments which are to make up our Happiness hereafter? Why should we suppose that our Hearing and Seeing will not be gratify'd with those Objects which are most agreeable to them, and which they cannot meet within these lower Regions of Nature; Objects, which neither Eye hath feen, nor Ear beard, nor can it enter into the Heart of Man to conceive? I knew a Man in Christ (fays St. Paul, speaking of himself) above fourteen Years an (whether in the Body, I cannot tell, or whether out of the Body, I cannot tell: God knoweth) fuch a one caught up to the third Heaven. And I knew such a Man, who ther in the Body, or out of the Body, I cannot tell: Gol knoweth) bow that he was caught up into Paradise, and heard unspeakable Words, which it is not possible for a Man to utter. By this is meant, that what he heard was fo infinitely different from any thing which he had heard in this World, that it was impossible to express it in such Words as might convey a Notion of it to his Hearers.

'IT is very natural for us to take Delight in Enquiries concerning any foreign Country, where we are fome Time or other to make our Abode; and as We all hope to be admitted into this glorious Place, it is both a laudable and useful Curiosity, to get what Informations we can of it, whilst we make use of

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Revelation for our Guide. When these everlasting Doors shall be open to us, we may be fure that the Pleasures and Beauties of this Place will infinitely transcend our present Hopes and Expectations, and that the glorious Appearance of the Throne of God. will rife infinitely beyond whatever we are able to conceive of it. We might here entertain our felves with many other Speculations on this Subject, from those several Hints which we find of it in the Holy Scriptures; as whether there may not be different Mansions and Apartments of Glory, to Beings of different Natures; whether as they excel one another in Perfection, they are not admitted nearer to the Throne of the Almighty, and enjoy greater Manifestations of his Presence; whether there are not solemn Times and Occasions, when all the Multitude of Heaven celebiate the Presence of their Maker in more extraordinary Forms of Praise and Adoration; as Adam, tho' he had continued in a State of Innocence, would, in the Opinion of our Divines, have kept holy the Sabbath-day, in a more particular Manner than any other of the seven. These, and the like Speculations, we may very innocently indulge, fo long as we make Use of them to inspire us with a Desire of becoming Inhabitants of this delightful Place.

'I have in this, and in two foregoing Letters, treated on the most ferious Subject that can employ the Mind of Man, the Omnipresence of the Deity; a Subject which, if possible, should never depart from our Meditations. We have confidered the Divine Being as he inhabits Infinitude, as he dwells among his Works, as he is present to the Mind of Man, and as he discovers himself in a more glorious Manner among the Regions of the Bleit. Such a Confideration should be kept awake in us at all Times, and in all Places, and possess our Minds with a perpetual Awe and Reverence. It should be interwoven with all our I houghts and Perceptions, and become one with the Consciousness of our own Being. It is not to be reslected on in the Coldness of Philotophy, but ought to fink us into the lowest Prostration before him, who is so astonish-

ingly Great, Wonderful and Holy.

KRKEKKKEKKEKKEK

No. 581. Monday, August 16.

Sunt bona, sunt quædam mediocria, sunt mala plura Qui legis _____ Mart.

A M at present sitting with a Heap of Letters before me, which I have received under the Character of Spectator; I have Complaints from Lovers, Schemes from Projectors, Scandal from Ladies, Congratulations, Compliments, and Advice in abundance.

I have not been thus long an Author, to be infensible of the natural Fondness every Person must have for their own Productions; and I begin to think I have treated my Correspondents a little too uncivilly in stringing them all together on a File, and letting them lyes long unregarded. I shall therefore, for the suture, think my self at least obliged to take some Notice of such Letters as I receive, and may possibly do it at the End of every Month.

In the mean time, I intend my present Paper as a short Answer to most of those which have been already

fent me.

THE Publick however is not to expect I should be them into all my Secrets; and though I appear abstruct to most People, it is sufficient if I am understood by my particular Correspondents.

My Well-wisher Van Nath is very arch, but not quit

enough fo to appear in Print.

PHILADELPHUS will, in a little Time, see his Query fully answered by a Treatise which is now in the Press.

IT was very improper at that Time to comply with Mr. G.

Miss Kitty must excuse me.

THE Conis Mistree Love to con I have to praise one TO M him to pure Bumper. I am ob I may Grumble.
THE PETHAT THE PAI thank

I am at ardly be Vestminster I must co

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WHEN the 20th e more pa Answer.

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PHILA, neaning M

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No. 581. The SPECTATOR.

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THE Gentleman who sent me a Copy of Verses on is Mistress's Dancing, is I believe too thoroughly in Love to compose correctly.

I have too great a Respect for both the Universities to

raise one at the Expence of the other.

TO M Nimble is a very honest Fellow, and I defire him to present my humble Service to his Cousin Fill Bumper.

I am obliged for the Letter upon Prejudice.

I may in due Time animadvert on the Case of Grace Grumble.

THE Petition of P. S. granted.
THAT of Sarah Loweit, refused.
THE Papers of A. S. are returned.

I thank Aristippus for his kind Invitation.

My Friend at Woodstock is a bold Man, to undertake for all within Ten Miles of him.

I am afraid the Entertainment of Tom Turnover will ardly be relished by the good Cities of London and Vestminster.

I must consider further of it, before I indulge W. F. inhole Freedoms he takes with the Ladies Stockings.

I am obliged to the ingenious Gentleman, who fent ne an Ode on the Subject of a late SPECTATOR, and hall take particular Notice of his last Letter.

WHEN the Lady who wrote me a Letter, dated Juthe 20th, in relation to some Passages in a Lover, will e more particular in her Directions, I shall be so in my Answer.

THE poor Gentleman, who fancies my Writings ould reclaim an Husband who can abuse such a Wife as the describes, has I am afraid too great an Opinion of my Skill.

PHILANTHROPOS is, I dare fay, a very wellneaning Man, but is a little too prolix in his Composilons.

CONSTANTIUS himself must be the best Judge in the Affair he mentions.

THE Letter dated from Lincoln is received.

ARETHUSA and her Friend may hear further om me.

CELIA

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CELIA is a little too hafty.

HARRIOT is a good Girl, but must not curtie to

Folks she does not know.

I must ingenuously confess my Friend Sampson Bent. staff has quite puzzled me, and writ me a long Letter which I cannot comprehend one Word of.

COLLID AN must also explain what he means by

his Drigelling.

I think it beneath my Spectatorial Dignity, to contern my felf in the Affair of the boiled Dumpling.

I shall consult some Litterati on the Project sent me

for the Discovery of the Longitude.

I know not how to conclude this Paper better, than by inferting a couple of Letters which are really genuine, and which I look upon to be two of the smartest Pieces I have received from my Correspondents of either Sex.

Brother Spec.

HILE you are furveying every Object that falls in your way, I am wholly taken up with one. Had that Sage, who demanded what Beauty

was, lived to fee the dear Angel I love, he would not

have asked such a Question. Had another seen her, he would himself have loved the Person in whom Hea-

ven has made Virtue visible; and were you your self

to be in her Company, you could never, with all your

Loquacity, fay enough of her good Humour and Sense.
 I send you the Outlines of a Picture, which I can no

more finish than I can sufficiently admire the dear Oil

ginal, Iam,

Your most affectionate Brother,

Constantio Spec.

Good Mr. Pert,

Will allow you nothing till you refolve me the following Question. Pray what's the Reason that while you only talk now upon Wednesdays, Fri-

days and Mondays, you pretend to be a greater Tatler,

than wl

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HE ed 1 wit Motto of Word for ting. T there bein Time or o Difference having in whereas t the Blood is very m many Res with it, fe have been received 1 their Hea Board, w

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than when you spoke every Day as you formerly used to do? If this be your plunging out of your Taciturnity, pray let the Length of your Speeches compensate for the Scarceness of them.

I am,
Good Mr. Pert,
Your Admirer,
if you will be long enough for me,
Amanda Lovelength.

No. 582. Wednesday, August 18.

Scribendi Cacoethes -

Juv.

THERE is a certain Distemper, which is mentioned neither by Galen nor Hippocrates, nor to be met with in the London Dispensary. Juvenal, in the Motto of my Paper terms it a Cacoethes; which is a hard Word for a Disease called in plain English, the Itch of Writing. This Cacoethes is as epidemical as the Small-pox, there being very few who are not feized with it some There is, however, this Time or other in their Lives. Difference in these two Distempers, that the first, after having indisposed you for a Time, never returns again, whereas this I am speaking of, when it is once got into the Blood, seldom comes out of it. The British Nation is very much afflicted with this Malady, and tho' very many Remedies have been applied to Persons infected with it, few of them have ever proved successful. Some have been cauteriz'd with Satyrs and Lampoons, but have received little or no Benefit from them; others have had their Heads fastned for an Hour together between a Cleft Board, which is made use of as a Cure for the Disease when it appears in its greatest Malignity. There is inleed one kind of this Malady which has been sometimes removed,

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removed, like the biting of a Tarantula, with the Sound of a mufical Instrument, which is commonly known by the Name of a Cat-call. But if you have a Patient of this kind under your Care, you may affure yourfelf there is no other way of recovering him effectually, but by for-

bidding him the Use of Pen, Ink and Paper.

Bu T to drop the Allegory, before I have tired it out. there is no Species of Scribblers more offensive, and more incurable than your Periodical Writers, whose Works return upon the Publick on certain Days and at stated Times. We have not the Confolation in the Perusal of these Authors, which we find at the reading of all others (namely) that we are fure if we have but Patience, we may come to the End of their Labours. I have often admired a humorous Saying of Diogenes, who reading a dull Author to several of his Friends, when every one began to be tired, finding he was almost come to a blank Leaf at the End of it, cried, Courage, Lads, I fee Land. On the contrary, our Progress through that kind of Writers I am now speaking of is never at an End. One Day makes Work for another, we do not know when to promife our felves Reft.

IT is a melancholy Thing to confider, that the Art of Printing, which might be the greatest Blessing to Mankind, should prove detrimental to us, and that it should be made use of to scatter Prejudice and Ignorance thro's People, instead of conveying to them Truth and Knowledge.

I was lately reading a very whimfical Treatife, entitled, William Ramfey's Vindication of Astrology. This profound Author, among many mystical Passages, has the

following one: 'The Absence of the Sun is not the Cause of Night, forafmuch as his Light is fo great that it may

· illuminate the Earth all over at once as clear as broad · Day; but there are tenebrificous and dark Stars, by

whose Influence Night is brought on, and which do

ray out Darkness and Obscurity upon the Earth, as

the Sun does Light.

I consider Writers in the same View this sage Astrologer does the heavenly Bodies. Some of them are Stars that scatter Light, as others do Darkness. I could men-

No. 58 tion fever Magnitue have beer dark Cor benighted them to 1 endure it fing upon quite out

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VERY to it. partic than those under an et which may others. N himself exe were denou Posterity. to make fue out some C may not lie useless Parts

MANY Hours app fome other and Woods. eminent Eng No. 583. The SPECTATOR.

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Virg.

tion feveral Authors who are tenebrificous Stars of the first Magnitude, and point out a Knot of Gentlemen, who have been dull in Confort, and may be looked upon as a dark Constellation. The Nation has been a great while benighted with feveral of these Anteluminaries. I suffered them to ray out their Darkness as long as I was able to endure it, till at length I came to a Resolution of rifing upon them, and hope in a little Time to drive them quite out of the British Hemisphere.

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No. 583. Friday, August 20.

Isse thymum pinosque ferens de montibus altis. Tecta serat late circum, cui talia Curæ: Ipfe labore manum duro terat, ipfe feraces Figat bumo plantas, & amicos irriget Imbres.

TVERY Station of Life has Duties which are proper to it. Those who are determined by Choice to any particular kind of Bufiness are indeed more happy than those who are determined by Necessity, but both are under an equal Obligation of fixing on Employments, which may be either useful to themselves, or beneficial to others. No one of the Sons of Adam ought to think himself exempt from that Labour and Industry, which were denounced to our first Parent, and in him to all his Posterity. Those to whom Birth or Fortune may seem to make fuch an Application unnecessary, ought to find out some Calling or Profession for themselves, that they may not lie as a Burden on the Species, and be the only useless Parts of the Creation.

MANY of our Country Gentlemen in their bufy Hours apply themselves wholly to the Chase, or to some other Diversion which they find in the Fields and Woods. This gave Occasion to one of our most eminent English Writers to represent every one of them

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Aftrolore Stars id men-1100 as lying under a kind of Curse pronounced to them in the Words of Goliah, I will give thee to the Fowls of the Air, and to the Beasts of the Field.

THO' Exercises of this Kind, when indulged with Moderation, may have a good Influence, both on the Mind and Body, the Country affords many other Amuse.

ments of a more noble Kind.

AMONG these I know none more delightful in it felf and beneficial to the Publick than that of PLANT. ING. I could mention a Nobleman whose Fortune has placed him in feveral Parts of England, and who has al. ways left these visible Marks behind him, which shewhe has been there: He never hired a House in his Life, without leaving all about it the Seeds of Wealth, and bestowing Legacies on the Posterity of the Owner. Had all the Gentlemen of England made the same Improvements upon their Estates, our whole Country would have been at this Time as one great Garden. Nor ought fuch an Employment to be looked upon as too inglorious for Men of the highest Rank. There have been Heroes in this Art. as well as in others. We are told in particular of Cyru the Great, that he planted all the Lesser Afia. There is indeed something truly magnificent in this kind of Amusement: It gives a noble Air to feveral Parts of Nature; it fills the Earth with a Variety of beautiful Scenes, and has fomething in it like Creation. For this Reason the Pleafure of one who plants is fomething like that of a Poet, who, as Ariffetle observes, is more delighted with his Productions than any other Writer or Artist whatsoever.

PLANTATIONS have one Advantage in them which is not to be found in most other Works, as they give a Pleasure of a more lasting Date, and continually improve in the Eye of the Planter. When you have snished a Building or any other Undertaking of the like Nature, it immediately decays upon your Hands; you see it brought to the utmost Point of Persection, and from that Time hastening to its Ruin. On the contrary, when you have snisshed your Plantation, they are still arriving at greater Degrees of Persection as long as you live, and appear more delightful in every succeeding Year, than

they did in the foregoing.

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Bur I do not only recommend this Art to Men of Estates as a pleasing Amusement, but as it is a kind of virtuous Employment, and may therefore be inculcated by moral Metives; particularly from the Love which we ought to have for our Country, and the Regard which we ought to bear to our Posterity. As for the first, I need only mention what is frequently observed by others, that the Increase of Forest-Trees does by no means bear a Proportion to the Destruction of them, infomuch that in a few Ages the Nation may be at a Loss to supply itself with Timber sufficient for the Fleets of England. I know when a Man talks of Posterity in Matters of this Nature. he is looked upon with an Eye of Ridicule by the cunning and felfish Part of Mankind. Most People are of the Humour of an old Fellow of a College, who, when he was pressed by the Society to come into something that might redound to the Good of their Successors. grew very peevish, We are always doing, fays he, Comething for Posterity, but I would fain see Posterity do Comething for us.

But I think Men are inexcusable, who sail in a Duty of this Nature, since it is so easily discharged. When a Man considers that the putting a few Twigs into the Ground, is doing good to one who will make his Appearance in the World about Fifty Years hence, or that he is perhaps making one of his own Descendants easy or rich, by so inconsiderable an Expence, if he finds himself averse it, he must conclude that he has a poor and base Heart, soid of all generous Principles and Love to Mankind.

THERE is one Consideration, which may very much inforce what I have here said. Many honest Minds that are naturally disposed to do good in the World, and become beneficial to Mankind, complain within themselves that they have not Talents for it. This therefore is a good Office, which is suited to the meanest Capacities, and which may be performed by Multitudes, who have not Abilities inficient to deserve well of their Country and to recomnend themselves to their Posterity, by any other Method. It is the Phrase of a Friend of mine, when any useful Country Neighbour dies, that you may trace him: which look upon as a good Funeral Oration, at the Death of m honest Husbandman, who hath left the Impressions

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UPON the foregoing Confiderations, I can scarce for bear representing the Subject of this Paper as a kind of moral Virtue: Which, as I have already shewn, recommends it felf likewise by the Pleasure that attends it. It must be confessed, that this is none of those turbulent Pleafures, which is apt to gratify a Man in the Heats of Youth; but if it be not so tumultuous, it is more lasting. Nothing can be more delightful than to entertain ourselves with Prospects of our own making, and to walk under those Shades which our own Industry has raised. Amusements of this Nature compose the Mind, and lay at Restall those Passions which are uneasy to the Soul of Man, besides that they naturally engender good Thoughts, and dispose us to laudable Contemplations. Many of the old Philosophen passed away the greatest Parts of their Lives among their Gardens. Epicurus himself could not think sensual Plafure attainable in any other Scene. Every Reader who is acquainted with Homer, Virgil and Horace, the greatest Genius's of all Antiquity, knows very well with how much Rapture they have spoken on this Subject; and that Virgil in particular has written a whole Book on the Art of Planting.

This Art feems to have been more especially adapt ed to the Nature of Man in his Primæval State, when he had Life enough to fee his Productions flourish in their utmost Beauty, and gradually decay with him. One who lived before the Flood might have feen a Wood of the tallest Oaks in the Acorn. But I only mention this Particular, in order to introduce in my next Paper a History which I have found among the Accounts of China, and which may be looked upon as an Antediluvian

Novel.

No. 584

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Riches; fo Harpath to Herds, tha long the F veral Foun of that Mou

HARPCourtship, t of her Age o Scorn hi the beautifu out a long (provoked S.

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No. 584. Monday, August 23.

Hic gelidi fontes, bic mollia prata, Lycori, Hic Nemus, bic toto tecum consumerer ævo.

Virg.

ILPA was one of the 150 Daughters of Zilpa, of the Race of Cobu, by whom some of the Learned think is meant Cain. She was exceedingly beautiful, and when she was but a Girl of Three-core and ten Years of Age, received the Addresses of everal who made love to her. Among these were two Brothers, Harpath, and Shalum; Harpath, being the First-born, was Master of that fruitful Region which lies at the Foot of Mount Tirza, in the Southern Parts of China. Shalum (which is to say the Planter in the Chinese Language) possessed all the neighbouring Hills and that great Range of Mountains which goes under the Name of Tirza. Harpath was of a haughty contemptuous Spirit; Shalum was of a gentle Disposition, beloved both by God and Man.

Ir is faid that, among the Antediluvian Women, he Daughters of Cohu had their Minds wholly fet upon Riches; for which Reason the beautiful Hilpa preferr'd Harpath to Shalum, because of his numerous Flocks and Herds, that covered all the low Country which runs long the Foot of Mount Tirza, and is watered by several Fountains and Streams breaking out of the Sides

of that Mountain.

HARP ATH made so quick a Dispatch of his Courtship, that he married Hilpa in the Hundredth Year of her Age; and being of an insolent Temper, laughed to Scorn his Brother Shalum for having pretended to the beautiful Hilpa, when he was Master of nothing but a long Chain of Rocks and Mountains. This so much provoked Shalum, that he is said to have cursed his Brother in the Bitterness of his Heart, and to have prayed that

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that one of his Mountains might fall upon his Head if

ever he came within the Shadow of it.

FROM this Time forward Harpath would never venture out of the Vallies, but came to an untimely End in the 250th Year of his Age, being drowned in River as he attempted to cross it. This River is called to this Day, from his Name who perished in it, the River Harpath, and what is very remarkable, iffues out of one of those Mountains which Shalum wished might fall upon his Brother, when he curfed him in the Bitterness of his Heart.

HILPA was in the 160th Year of her Age at the Death of her Husband, having brought him but 50 Children, before he was fnatched away, as has been already related. Many of the Antediluvians made Love to the young Widow, tho' no one was thought fo likely to facceed in her Affections as her first Lover Shalum, who renewed his Court to her about ten Years after the Death of Harpath; for it was not thought decent in those Days that a Widow should be seen by a Man within ten Years after the Decease of her Husband.

SHALUM falling into a deep Melancholy, and refolving to take away that Objection which had been raised against him when he made his first Addresses to Hilpa, began immediately, after her Marriage with Harpath, to plant all that mountainous Region which fell to his Lot in the Division of this Country. He knew how to adapt every Plant to its proper Soil, and is thought to have inherited many traditional Secrets, of that Art from the first Man. This Employment turn'd at length to his Profit as well as to his Amulement: His Mountains were in a few Years shaded with young Trees, that gradually shot up into Groves, Woods, and Forests, intermixed with Walks, and Launs, and Gardens; insomuch that the whole Region from a naked and defolate Prospect, began now to look like a second Paradise. The Pleasantness of the Place, and the agreeable Disposition of Shalum, who was reckoned one of the mildest and wisest of all who lived before the Flood, drew into it Multitudes of People, who were perpetually employed in the finking of Wells, the dig-

ging of T better Diff spacious P THEH beautiful 70 Autum Prospect (with inni that gave into one o behold.

No. 184

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SHAI Hilpa 170

Shalum 1

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tiful R

No. 184. The SPECTATOR. 105 ging of Trenches, and the hollowing of Trees, for the better Distribution of Water through every Part of this

fracious Plantation.

THE Habitations of Shalum looked every Year more beautiful in the Eyes of Hilpa, who after the Space of 70 Autumns, was wonderfully pleased with the distant Prospect of Shalum's Hills, which were then covered with innumerable Tusts of Trees, and gloomy Scenes that gave a Magnificence to the Place, and converted it into one of the finest Landskips the Eye of Man could behold.

THE Chinese record a Letter which Shalum is said to have written to Hilpa, in the Eleventh Year of her Widowhood. I shall here translate it, without departing from that noble Simplicity of Sentiments, and Phainness of Manners which appear in the Original.

SHALUM was at this Time 180 Years old, and

Hilpa 170.

Shalum Master of Mount Tirza, to Hilpa Mistress of the Vallies.

In the 788th Year of the Creation. 'WHAT have I not suffered, O thou Daughter of Zilpah, since thou gavest thyself away in ' Marriage to my Rival? I grew weary of the Light of ' the Sun, and have been ever fince covering myself These Three-score and ten with Woods and Forests. Years have I bewailed the Loss of thee on the Tops of Mount Tirzah, and foothed my Melancholy among a thousand gloomy Shades of my own raising. Dwellings are at present as the Garden of God; every Part of them is filled with Fruits, and Flowers, and Fountains. The whole Mountain is perfumed for thy Reception. Come up into it, O my beloved, and let us people this Spot of the new World with a beautiful Race of Mortals; let us multiply exceedingly among these delightful Shades, and fill every Quarter of them with Sons and Daughters. Remember, O thou Daughter of Zilpah, that the Age of Man is but a thousand Years; that Beauty is the Admiration but of

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The SPECTATOR. No. 585.

a few Centuries. It flourishes as a Mountain Oak, a

as a Cedar on the Top of Tirzah, which in three

four hundred Years will fade away, and never ke thought of by Posterity, unless a young Wood spring

from its Roots. Think well on this, and remember

thy Neighbour in the Mountains.

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HAVING here inserted this Letter, which I look upon as the only Antediluvian Billet-doux now extant, I shall in my next Paper give the Answer to it, and the Sequel of this Story.

No. 585. Wednesday, August 25.

Ipsi lætitia voces ad sidera jastant Intonsi montes : ipsæ jam carmina rupes, Ipsæ sonant arbusta ————

Virg.

The Sequel of the Story of Shalum and Hilpa.

THE Letter inserted in my last had so good an Elfect upon Hilpa, that she answered it in less than a Twelvemonth, after the following manner.

Hilpa, Mistress of the Vallies, to Shalum, Master of

In the 789 Year of the Creatia.

'Thou praisest Hilpa's Beauty, but art thou not

fecretly enamoured with the Verdure of her Ma-

dows? Art thou not more affected with the Profeet

of her green Vallies, than thou wouldest be with the

Sight of her Person? The Lowings of my Herds, and

the Bleatings of my Flock, make a pleasant Eccho

in thy Mountains, and found sweetly in thy Ears. What the I am delighted with the Wavings of thy

Forests, and those Breezes of Perfumes which flow

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ner.

I knew thee, O Shalum; thou art more wise and happy than any of the Sons of Men. Thy Dwellings are among the Cedars; thou searchest out the Diversity of Soils, thou understandest the Insluences of the Stars, and markest the Change of Seasons. Can a Woman appear lovely in the Eyes of such a one? Disquiet me not, O Shalum; let me alone, that I may enjoy those goodly Possessions which are fallen to my Lot. Win me not by thy enticing Words. May thy Trees encrease and multiply; mayest thou add Wood to Wood, and Shade to Shade; but tempt not Hilpa to destroy thy Solitude, and make thy Re-

' tirement populous.

THE Chinese say, that a little time afterwards she accepted of a Treat in one of the neighbouring Hills to which Shalum had invited her. This Treat lasted for two Years, and is said to have cost Shalum sive hundred Antelopes, two thousand Ostriches, and a thousand Tun of Milk; but what most of all recommended it, was that Variety of delicious Fruits and Pot-herbs, in which no Person then living could any way equal Shalum.

HE treated her in the Bower which he had planted amidst the Wood of Nightingales. This Wood was made up of such Fruit-Trees and Plants as are most agreeable to the several Kinds of Singing Birds; so that it had drawn into it all the Musick of the Country, and was filled from one End of the Year to the other with the

most agreeable Confort in Season.

He shewed her every Day some beautiful and surprising Scene in this new Region of Wood lands; and as by this Means he had all the Opportunities he could wish for opening his Mind to her, he succeeded so well, that upon her Departure she made him a kind of Promise, and gave him her Word to return him a positive Answer in less than Fifty Years.

SHE had not been long among her own People in the Vallies, when the received new Overtures, and at the fame Time a most splendid Visit from Milbpack,

who

who was a mighty Man of old, and had built a great City, which he called after his own Name. Even House was made for at least a thousand Years, nay there were some that were leased out for three Lives; so that the Quantity of Stone and Timber confumed in this Building is scarce to be imagined by those who live in the present Age of the World. This great Man enter. tained her with the Voice of musical Instruments which had been lately invented, and danced before her to the Sound of the Timbrel. He also presented her with is veral domestick Utenfils wrought in Brass and Iron, which had been newly found out for the Convenience of Life. In the mean Time Shalum grew very uneally with himself, and was forely displeased at Hilpa for the Reception which she had given to Mishpach, insomuch that he never wrote to her or spoke of her during a whole Revolution of Saturn; but finding that this Intercourse went no fur her than a Visit, he again renew. ed his Addresses to her, who during his long Silence is faid very often to have cast a wishing Eye upon Mount Tirzab.

HER Mind continued wavering about twenty Year longer between Shalum and Mishpach; for the' her Inclinations favoured the former, her Interest pleaded very powerfully for the other. While her Heart was in this unsettled Condition, the following Accident happened which determined her Choice. A high Tower of Wood that stood in the City of Mishpach having caught Fire by a Flash of Lightning, in a few Days reduced the whole Town to Ashes. Mishpach resolved to rebuild the Place whatever it should cost him; and having already destroyed all the Timber of the Country, he was forced to have Recourse to Shalum, whose Forets were now two hundred Years old. He purchased thete Woods with so many Herds of Cattle and Flocks of Sheep, and with fuch a vast Extent of Fields and Pasture, that Shalum was now grown more wealthy than Mijhpach; and therefore appeared so charming in the Eyes Zilpah's Daughter, that she no longer refused him in Marriage. On the Day in which he brought her up into the Mountains he raised a most prodigious Pile of Cedar

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SIR, T wa gave they flept a doing th worthy o were to a Habit. it should Scholar r about tha if the Co was real. Fancy mu

Reason, be

gines him! Vol. VI and of every sweet smelling Wood, which reached above 300 Cubits in Height; He also cast into the Pile Bundles of Myrrh and Sheaves of Spikenard, enriching it with every spicy Shrub, and making it sat with the Gums of his Plantations. This was the Burnt-Offering which Shalum offered in the Day of his Espousals: The Smoke of it ascended up to Heaven, and silled the whole Country with Incense and Persume.

ઋષ્યું કુંભ માટે કુંભ અહિંદિમ માટે કુંભ માટે કુંભ માટે કુંભ માટે કુંભ માટે કુંભ માટે કુંભ માટે કુંભ

No. 586. Friday, August 27.

— Quæ in vita usurpant homines, cogitant, curant, vident, Quæque agunt vigilantes, agitantque, ea cuique in somno accidunt. Cic. de Div.

BY the last Post I received the following Letter, which is built upon a Thought that is new, and very well carried on; for which Reasons I shall give it to the Publick without Alteration, Addition, or Amendment.

SIR,

T was a good Piece of Advice which Pythagoras I gave to his Scholars, That every Night before they flept they should examine what they had been a doing that Day, and so discover what Actions were worthy of Pursuit to-morrow, and what little Vices were to be prevented from flipping unawares into a Habit. If I might second the Philosopher's Advice, it should be mine, That in a Morning before my Scholar rose, he should consider what he had been about that Night, and with the same Strictness, as if the Condition he has believed himself to be in, was real. Such a Scrutiny into the Actions of his Fancy must be of considerable Advantage, for this Reason, because the Circumstances which a Man imagines himself in during Sleep, are generally such as VOL. VIII. entirely

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· entirely favour his Inclinations good or bad, and give him imaginary Opportunities of pursuing them to the utmost; so that his Temper will lie fairly open to his · View, while he confiders how it is moved when free from those Constraints which the Accidents of real life put it under. Dreams are certainly the Refults of our waking Thoughts, and our daily Hopes and Fean are what give the Mind fuch nimble Relishes of Plea. " fure, and fuch severe Touches of Pain, in its Midnight Rambles. A Man that murders his Enemy, or deferts his Friend in a Dream, had need to guard his 'Temper against Revenge and Ingratitude, and take ' heed that he be not tempted to do a vile Thing in the Pursuit of false, or the Neglect of true Honour. For my Part, I seldom receive a Benefit, but in a Night or two's Time I make most noble Returns for ' it; which tho' my Benefactor is not a whit the beam for, yet it pleases me to think that it was from a ' Principle of Gratitude in me, that my Mind wa " susceptible of such generous Transport while I though my felf repaying the Kindness of my Friend: And I have often been ready to beg Pardon, instead of the turning an Injury, after considering that when the

· Offender was in my Power I had carried my Relent ments much too far. 'I think it has been observed in the Course of your · Papers, how much one's Happiness or Milery may ' depend upon the Imagination: Of which Truth that

· strange Workings of Fancy in Sleep are no inconsider ' able Instances, so that not only the Advantage a Ma has of making Discoveries of himself, but a Regards

' his own Ease or Disquiet may induce him to accept ' my Advice. Such as are willing to comply with the " I shall put into a way of doing it with Pleasure, by

observing only one Maxim which I shall give them " viz, To go to Bed with a Mind entirely free from to

. sion, and a Body clear of the least Intemperance. 'THEY indeed who can fink into Sleep with the 'Thoughts less calm or innocent than they should be

· do but plunge themselves into Scenes of Guilt a

" Milery; or they who are willing to purchase a · Midnigh

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Midnight Disquietudes for the Satisfaction of a full Meal, or a Skin full of Wine; these I have nothing to fay to, as not knowing how to invite them to Reflections full of Shame and Horror: But those that will observe this Rule, I promise them they shall awake into Health and Chearfulness, and be capable of recounting with Delight those glorious Moments wherein the Mind has been indulging it felf in fuch Luxury of Thought, such noble Hurry of Imagination. Suppose a Man's going supperless to Bed should introduce him to the Table of some great Prince or other, where he should be entertained with the noblest Marks of Honour and Plenty, and do fo much Bufiness after, that he shall rise with as good a Stomach to his Breakfast as if he had fasted all Night long; or suppose he should see his dearest Friends remain all Night in great Distresses, which he should instantly have difengaged them from, could he have been content to have gone to Bed without t'other Bottle: Believe me. these Effects of Fancy are no contemptible Consequences of commanding or indulging one's Appetite. 'I forbear recommending my Advice upon many other Accounts, till I hear how you and your Readers relish what I have already said, among whom if there be any that may pretend it is useless to them. because they never dream at all, there may be others, perhaps, who do little else all Day long. Were every one as fensible as I am what happens to him in his Sleep, it would be no Dispute whether we past so considerable a Portion of our Time in the Condition of Stocks and Stones, or whether the Soul were not perpetually at work upon the Principle of Thought. However, 'tis an honest Endeavour of mine to perfuade my Countrymen to reap some Advantage from o many unregarded Hours, and as fuch you will encourage it.

I shall conclude with giving you a Sketch or two

of my Way of proceeding.

IF I have any Business of Consequence to do tomorrow, I am scarce dropt asses to night but I am in the midst of it, and when awake I consider the whole Procession of the Affair, and get the Advan.

· tage of the next Day's Experience before the Sun ha

risen upon it.

THERE is scarce a great Post but what I have fome Time or other been in; but my Behaviour

while I was Master of a College, pleases me so well, that whenever there is a Province of that Nature va.

cant, I intend to step in as foon as I can.

I have done many Things that would not pass Examination, when I have had the Art of Flying, a

being invisible; for which Reason I am glad I am ont possessed of those extraordinary Qualities.

LASTLY, Mr. SPECTATOR, I have been a great

Correspondent of yours, and have read many of m.
Letters in your Paper which I never wrote you.

you have a Mind I should really be so, I have got a Parcel of Visions and other Miscellanies in my Note.

ary, which I shall send you to enrich your Paper with

on proper Occasions.

Oxford, Aug. 20.

I am, &c.

John Shadow

No. 587. Monday, August 30.

Intus, & in Cute novi.

Perf.

THO' the Author of the following Vision is the known to me, I am apt to think it may be to Work of that ingenious Gentleman, who promised me, in the last Paper, some Extracts out of the Noctuary.

SIR,

Was the other Day reading the Life of Mahnes
Among many other Extravagancies, I find
recorded of that Impostor, that in the fourth is

No. 587 of his A he was afide, cu wrung o fay the ! cati. fo mediatel a very s every M foueeze c he finds i ' WHII this Cont fing Slur my Char After hav they dep what was we paint bad me. of your can be q ings of o upon he took out in a great I had alw Heart on throughly when the divine Air politory; amine the 'THE Phials, an Spirits of I was afra

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of his Age the Angel Gabriel caught him up, while he was among his Play-fellows, and, carrying him aside, cut open his Breast, plucked out his Heart, and wrung out of it that black Drop of Blood, in which, say the Turkish Divines, is contained the Fomes Peccati, so that he was free from Sin ever after. I immediately said to my self, tho' this Story be a Fiction, a very good Moral may be drawn from it, would every Man but apply it to himself, and endeavour to squeeze out of his Heart whatever Sins or ill Qualities he finds in it.

WHILE my Mind was wholly taken up with this Contemplation, I infensibly fell into a most pleafing Slumber, when methought two Porters entered my Chamber, carrying a large Chest between them. After having fet it down in the middle of the Room they departed. I immediately endeavour'd to open what was fent me, when a Shape, like that in which we paint our Angels, appeared before me, and forbad me. Enclosed, said he, are the Hearts of several of your Friends and Acquaintance; but before you can be qualified to fee and animadvert on the Failings of others, you must be pure your felf; whereupon he drew out his Incision Knife, cut me open, took out my Heart, and began to squeeze it. I was in a great Confusion, to see how many Things, which I had always cherished as Virtues, issued out of my Heart on this Occasion. In short, after it had been throughly squeezed, it looked like an empty Bladder, when the Phantome, breathing a fresh Particle of divine Air into it, restored it safe to its former Repolitory; and having fewed me up, we began to examine the Cheft.

'The Hearts were all enclosed in transparent Phials, and preserved in a Liquor which looked like Spirits of Wine. The first which I cast my Eye upon, I was afraid would have broke the Glass which contained it. It shot up and down, with incredible Swistness, thro' the Liquor in which it swam, and very frequently bounced against the Side of the Phial. The Fomes, or Spot in the Middle of it, was not large,

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· but of a red fiery Colour, and feemed to be the Capie of these violent Agitations. That, says my Instructor, ' is the Heart of Tom. Dread-Nought, who behaved him. · felf well in the late Wars, but as for these ten Yean 1 last past been aiming at some Post of Honour to no · Purpose. He is lately retired into the Country, where, quite choaked up with Spleen and Choler, he mil at better Men than himself, and will be for ever m. eafy, because it is impossible he should think his Mo rit sufficiently rewarded. The next Heart that I enamined was remarkable for its Smallness; it lay sill at the Bottom of the Phial, and I could harldly per-" ceive that it beat at all. The Fomes was quite black, and had almost diffused it self over the whole Hear, This, fays my Interpreter, is the Heart of Dick Gloom, who never thirsted after any Thing but Money. No. withflanding all his Endeavours, he is still poor. This has flung him into a most deplorable State of Melacholy and Despair. He is a composition of Eny and Idleness, hates Mankind, but gives them ther Revenge by being more uneasy to himself, than w any one elfe.

'THE Phial I looked upon next contained a large · fair Heart, which beat very strongly. The Fomes of Spot in it was exceeding small; but I could not help

observing, that which way soever I turned the Phil ' it always appeared uppermost, and in the stronger

Point of Light. The Heart you are examining, fast ' my Companion, belongs to Will. Worthy. He has

' indeed, a most noble Soul, and is possessed of a those fand good Qualities. The Speck which you discord

is Vanity.

HERE, fays the Angel is the Heart of Freelest your intimate Friend. Freelove and I, faid I, area present very cold to one another, and I do not can for looking on the Heart of a Man, which I fear ! overcast with Rancour. My Teacher commanda " me to look upon it; I did so, and, to my unspeak able Surprize, found that a fmall swelling Spot, which I at first took to be Ill-Will towards me, was on

· Passion, andthat upon my nearer Inspection it when

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disappeared; upon which the Phantome told me Free-

Acquaintance. I found the Fomes in it of the largest Size, and of a hundred different Colours, which were still varying every Moment. Upon my asking to whom it belonged, I was informed that it was the Heart of Coquetilla.

'I fet it down, and drew out another, in which I took the Fomes at first Sight to be very small, but was amazed to find, that as I looked stedfastly upon it, it grew still larger. It was the Heart of Melissa, a no-

ted Prude who lives the next Door to me. 'I show you this, fays the Phantome, because it is indeed a Rarity, and you have the Happiness to know the Persons to whom it belongs. He then put into my Hands a large Chrystal Glass, that enclosed an Heart, in which, though I examined it with the utmost Nicety, I could not perceive any Blemish. I made no Scruple to affirm that it must be the Heart of Seraphina, and was glad, but not surprized, to find that it was so. She is, indeed continued my Guide, the Ornament, as well as the Envy, of her Sex; at these last Words, he pointed to the Hearts of feveral of her Female Acquaintance which lay in different Phials, and had very large Spots in them, all of a deep Blue. You are not to wonder, fays he, that you fee no Spot in an Heart, whose Innocence has been Proof against all the Corruptions of a depraved Age. If it has any Blemith, it is too small to be discovered by human Eyes. 'I laid it down, and took up the Hearts of other Females, in all of which the fomes ran in several Veins, which were twifted together, and made a very perplexed Figure. I asked the Meaning of it, and was told it represented Deceit.

of several of my Acquaintance, whom I knew to be particularly addicted to Drinking, Gaming, Intreaguing, &c. but my Interpreter told me I must let that alone till another Opportunity, and slung down the Cover of the Chest with so much Violence, as immediately awoke me.

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No. 588. Wednesday, September 1.

Dicitis, Omnis in Imbecillitate est et Gracia, et Caritat, Cicero de Nat. Deor. L.

M AN may be confidered in two Views, as a reacoming himself either happy or miserable, and of contributing to the Happiness or Misery of his Fellow Suitably to this double Capacity, the Contriver of human Nature hath wifely furnished it with two Principles of Action, Self-love and Benevolence; de figned one of them to render Man wakeful to his own per-Sonal Interest, the other to dispose him for giving his utmost Assistance to all engaged in the same Pursuit. This is fuch an Account of our Frame, fo agreeable to Reason, fo much for the Honour of our Maker, and the Credit of our Species, that it may appear somewhat unaccount able what should induce Men to represent human Natur as they do under Characters of Difadvantage, or, having drawn it with a little and fordid Afpect, what Pleasure they can possibly take in such a Picture. Do they reflect that it is their own, and, if we will believe themselves, is not more odious than the Original? One of the first that talked in this lofty Strain of our Nature was Epi-Beneficence, would his Followers fay, is all founded in Weakness; and, whatever he pretended, the Kindness that passeth between Men and Men is by every Man directed to himself. This, it must be confeffed, is of a Piece with the rest of that hopeful Philo fophy, which having patched Man up out of the four Elements, attributes his Being to Chance, and derive all his Actions from an unintelligible Declination of Atoms

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Atoms. And for these glorious Discoveries the Poet is beyond Measure transported in the Praises of his Hero, as if he must needs be something more than Man, only for an endeavour to prove that Man is in nothing superior to Beafts. In this School was Mr. Hobbes instructed to speak after the same Manner, if he did not rather draw his Knowledge from an Observation of his own Temper; for he fomewhere unluckily lays down this as a Rule, 'That from the Similitudes of Thoughts and Paffions of one Man to the Thoughts and Passions of another, whosoever looks into himself and considers what he doth when he thinks, hopes, fears, &c. and upon what Grounds, he shall hereby read and know what are the Thoughts and Passions of all other Men upon the like Occasion.' Now we will allow Mr. Hobbes to know best how he was inclined; But in earnest. should be heartily out of Conceit with myself, if I hought myself of this unamiable Temper, as he affirms. and should have as little Kindness for myself as for any Body in the World. Hitherto I always imagined that kind and benevolent Propensions were the Original Growth of the Heart of Man, and however checked and vertopped by counter Inclinations that have fince fprung p within us, have still some force in the worst of Temers, and a confiderable Influence on the best. And, mehinks, it is a fair Step towards the Proof of this, that he most beneficial of all Beings is He who hath an abolute Fulness of Perfection in Himself, who gave Exitence to the Universe, and so cannot be supposed to want hat which He communicated, without diminishing from the Plentitude of his own Power and Happiness. The Philosophers before-mentioned have indeed done all hat in them lay to invalidate this Argument; for placing he Gods in a State of the most elevated Blessedness, they escribe them as selfish as we poor miserable Mortals can e, and shut them out from all Concern for Mankind, pon the Score of their having no Need of us. But if le that fitteth in the Heavens wants not us, we stand in ontinual Need of Him; and furely, next to the Survey f the immense Treasures of his own Mind, the most talted Pleasure He receives is from beholding Millions of

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might be that which World, as Force of S Benevolen a diffine 1

and then c Bur to Pity whic the Satisf having re a thousand refted Ben we make fee befal o but this i on, and c count of it less about ing into th Touches of Delight w another, jeds are really ine Conscious worthy, a all this h there wou most shin warded t Commen done upo than when fign; bec equally a felf a Be pence for

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vantage,

Creatures, lately drawn out of the Gulph of Non-exiflence, rejoycing in the various Degrees of Being and Happiness imparted to them. And as this is the true, and glorious Character of the Deity, fo in forming a reasonable Creature he would not, if possible, suffer his !mage to pass out of his Hands unadorned with a Resem. blance of Himself in this most lovely Part of his Nature. For what Complacency could a Mind, whose Love is as unbounded as his Knowledge, have in a Work four. like Himself? a Creature that should be capable of know. ing and conversing with a vast Circle of Objects, and love none but Himfelf? What Proportion would there be between the Head and the Heart of fuch a Creature, is Affections and its Understanding? Or could a Society of fuch Creatures, with no other Bottom but Self-Love on which to maintain a Commerce, ever flourish? Reason, tis certain, would oblige every Man to pursue the general Happiness, as the Means to procure and establish his own; and yet if, besides this Consideration, there were not a natural Instinct, prompting Men to defire the Welfare and Satisfaction of others, Self-Love, in Defianced the Admonitions of Reason, would quickly run all Things into a State of War and Confusion. As nearly interested as the Soul is in the Fate of the Body; our provident Creator faw it necessary by the constant Returns of Hunger and Thirst, those importunate Appetites, to put it in Mind of its Charge; knowing, that if we should est and drink no oftner than cold abstracted Speculation should put us upon these Exercises, and then leave it to Reason to prescribe the Quantity, we should soon refine ourselves out of this bodily Life. And indeed, 'tis ob vious to remark, that we follow nothing heartily, unes carried to it by inclinations which anticipate our Reason, and like a Biass, draw the Mind strongly towards it. Is order, therefore to establish a perpetual Intercourse of Be nefits amongst Mankind, their Maker would not fall give them this generous Prepoffession of Benevolence, if as I have faid, it were possible. And from whence ca we go about to argue its Impossibility? Is it inconfide: with Self-Love? Are their Motions contrary? No most than the diurnal Rotation of the Earth is opposed to b Annual

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Annual; or its Motion round its own Centre, which might be improved as an Illustration of Self-Love, to that which whirls it about the common Centre of the World, answering to universal Benevolence. Is the Force of Self-Love abated, or its Interest prejudiced by Benevolence? So far from it, that Benevolence, though a distinct Principle, is extremely serviceable to Self-Love, and then doth most Service when 'tis least designed.

Bur to descend from Reason to Matter of Fact; the Pity which arises on Sight of Persons in Distress, and the Satisfaction of Mind which is the Consequence of having removed them into a happier State, are instead of a thousand Arguments to prove such a Thing as a disinterested Benevolence. Did Pity proceed from a Restection we make upon our Liableness to the same ill Accidents we fee befal others, it were nothing to the prefent Purpofe; but this is affigning an artificial Caufe of natural Paffion, and can by no Means be admitted as a tolerable Account of it, because Children and Persons most thoughtless about their own Condition, and incapable of entering into the Prospects of Futurity, feel the most violent Touches of Compassion. And then as to that charming Delight which immediately follows the giving Joy to another, or relieving his Sorrow, and is, when the Objeds are numerous, and the Kindness of Importance, really inexpressible, what can this be owing to but a Consciousness of a Man's having done something Praiseworthy, and expressive of a great Soul? Whereas, if in all this he only facrificed to Vanity and Self-Love, as there would be nothing brave in Actions that make the most shining Appearance, so Nature would not have rewarded them with this divine Pleasure; nor could the Commendations, which a Person receives for Benefits done upon selfish Views, be at all more Satisfactory, than when he is applauded for what he doth without Defign; because in both Cases the Ends of Self-Love are equally answered. The Conscience of approving one's self a Benefactor to Mankind is the noblest Recompence for being fo; doubtlefs it is, and the most interested cannot propose any Thing so much to their own Advantage, notwithstanding which, the Inclination is neverthele.s

The Pleafure which attends the vertheles unselfish. Gratification of our Hunger and Thirst, is not the Cause of these Appetites; they are previous to any such Profpect; and so likewise is the Desire of doing Good; with this Difference, that being feated in the intellectual Part, this last, though Antecedent to Reason, may yet be improved and regulated by it, and, I will add, is no otherwife a Virtue than as it is fo. Thus have I contended for the Dignity of that Nature I have the Honour to partake of; and after all the Evidence produced, think I haves Right to conclude, against the Motto of this Paper, that there is fuch a Thing as Generofity in the World. Though if I were under a Mistake in this, I should say as Ciceron Relation to the Immortality of the Soul, I willingly en, and shall believe it very much for the Interest of Mankind to lye under the same Delusion. For the contrary Notion naturally tends to dispirit the Mind, and finksit into a Meanness fatal to the Godlike Zeal of doing good As on the other Hand, it teaches People to be Ungrateful, by possessing them with a Perswasion concerning their Benefactors, that they have no Regard to them is the Benefits they bestow. Now he that banishes Gratitude from among Men, by fo doing stops up the Stream of Beneficence. For though in conferring Kindnesses, 1 truly generous Man doth not aim at a Return, yet he looks to the Qualities of the Person obliged, and as no thing renders a Person more unworthy of a Benefit, than his being without all Resentment of it, he will not be extremely forward to oblige fuch a Man.





No. 589

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No. 589

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Planting to give cients had Abrahan that the fout down

No. 589. Friday, September 3.

Persequitur scelus ille suum : labefactaque tandem Ictibus innumeris adductaque sunibus arbor Corruit — Ovid.

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Friday,

Am fo great an Admirer of Trees, that the Spot of Ground I have chosen to build a small Seat upon, in the Country, is almost in the midst of a large Wood. I was obliged, much against my Will, to cut down several Trees, that I might have any such Thing as a Walk in my Gardens; but then I have taken Care to leave the Space, between every Walk, as much a Wood as I found it. The Moment you turn either to the Right or Lest, you are in a Forest, where Nature presents you with a much more beautiful Scene than could have been raised by Art.

INSTEAD of Tulips or Carnations, I can shew you Oaks in my Gardens of four hundred Years standing, and a Knot of Elms that might shelter a Troop of Horse from the Rain.

'IT is not without the utmost Indignation, that I obferve several prodigal young Heirs in the Neighbourhood, felling down the most glorious Monuments of their Ancestors Industry, and ruining in a Day, the Product of Ages.

'I am mightily pleased with your Discourse upon Planting, which put me upon looking into my Books to give you some Account of the Veneration the Ancients had for Trees. There is an old Tradition, that Abraham planted a Cypress, a Pine, and a Cedar, and that these three incorporated into one Tree, which was cut down for the Building of the Temple of Solomon.

'ISIDORUS, who lived' in the Reign of Constant tius, assures us, that he saw, even in his Time, that famous Oak in the Plains of Mamrè, under which

Abraham is reported to have dwelt, and adds, that the People looked upon it with a great Veneration, and

· preserved it as a sacred Tree.

* THE Heathens still went farther, and regarded it as the highest Piece of Sacrilege to injure certain Tress which they took to be protected by some Deity. The Story of Eristathon, the Grove of Dodona, and that

at Delphi are all Instances of this Kind.

If we confider the Machine in Virgil, so much blamed by several Criticks, in this Light, we shall

· hardly think it too violent.

* ÆNEAS, when he built his Fleet, in order to fail
for Italy, was obliged to cut down the Grove on Mount
Ida, which however he durft not do till he had co

tained leave from Cybele, to whom it was dedicated. The Goddess could not but think herself obliged to

f protect these Ships, which were made of consecrated Timber, after a very extraordinary Manner, and there-

fore defired Jupiter, that they might not be obnexion to the Power of Waves or Winds. Jupiter would not

grant this, but promifed her, that as many as came fafe to *Italy* should be transformed into Goddesses of

the Sea; which the Poet tells us was accordingly as

ecuted.

And now at length the number'd Hours were come,
Prefix'd by Fate's irrevocable Doom,
When the great Mother of the Gods was free
To fave her Ships, and finish Jove's Decree.
First, from the Quarter of the Morn, there sprung
A Light that sign'd the Heavens, and shot along:
Then from a Cloud, fring'd round with Golden First,
Were Timbrels heard, and Berecynthian Quires:
And last a Voice, with more than Mortal Sounds,
Both Hosts in Arms oppos'd, with equal Horror wounds,
O Trojan Race, your needless Aid forbear;

And know my Ships are my peculiar Care.

With great With hissi and some Exalted earn of some of the When lo, and strang Ibey plung As many be As rode bej

No. 58

THE whom th Honour was thou Dependa they live were ext those Tr lonius te pole, wi ' A certa ready to passion to in fresh E Hamadry rished wi and after the was re was extre entertaine displeased Meeting, flain from that she w

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No. 589. The SPECTATOR.

With greater Ease the bold Rutulian may, With hissing Brands attempt to burn the Sea, Than finge my facred Pines. But you may Charge, Loos'd from your crooked Anchors launch at large, Exalted each a Nymph : For fake the Sand, And swim the Seas, at Cybele's Command. No fooner had the Goddess ceas'd to speak, When lo, th' obedient Ships their Haulsers break; And Brange to tell, like Dolphins in the Main, They plunge their Prows, and dive, and spring again: As many beauteous Maids the Billows sweep, As rode before tall Vessels on the Deep.

Dryden's Virg.

THE common Opinion concerning the Nymphs whom the Ancients called Hamadryads, is more to the Honour of Trees than any Thing yet mentioned. was thought the Fate of these Nymphs had so near a Dependance on some Trees, more especially Oaks, that they lived and died together. For this Reason they were extremely grateful to fuch Perfons who preferved those Trees with which their Being subfifted. lonius tells us a very remarkable Story to this Pur-

pose, with which I shall conclude my Letter.

'A certain Man, called Rhacus, observing an old Oak ready to fall, and being moved with a Sort of Compassion towards the Tree; ordered his Servants to pour infresh Earth at the Roots of it, and set it upright. The Hamadryad, or Nymph who must necessarily have perished with the Tree, appeared to him the next Day, and after having returned him her Thanks, told him, the was ready to grant whatever he should ask. As she was extremely beautiful, Rhæcus defired he might be entertained as her Lover. The Hamadryad, not much displeased with the Request, promis'd to give him a Meeting, but commanded him for fome Days to abflain from the Embraces of all other Women, adding that she would fend a Bee to him, to let him know when he was to be happy. Rhæcus was it feems, too much addicted to Gaming, and happened to be in a Run of ill Luck when the faithful Bee came buzzing about him:

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him; fo that instead of minding his kind Invitation,

he had like to have killed him for his Pains. The Hamadryad was so provoked at her own Disappointment,

and the ill Usage of her Messenger, that she deprived

Rhæcus of the Use of his Limbs. However, says the Story, he was not so much a Cripple, but he madea

fhift to cut down the Tree, and confquently to fell his

· Mistrefs.

No. 590. Monday, September 6.

Non secus ac flumen. Neque enim consistere flumen,
Nec levis bora potest: sed ut unda impellitur unda,
Urgeturque prior venienti, urgetque priorem,
Tempora sic fugiunt pariter, pariterque sequuntur;
Et nova sunt semper. Nam quod suit ante, relictum est;
Fitque quod baud suerat: momentaque cuncta novantur.
Ov. Met.

The following Discourse comes from the same Hand with the Essays upon Infinitude.

W E consider infinite Space as an Expansion without a Circumference: We consider Eternity, or infinite Duration, as a Line that has neither a Beginning not an End. In our Speculations of infinite Space, we consider that particular Place in which we exist, as a kind of Centre to the whole Expansion. In our Speculations of Eternity, we consider the Time which is present to us as the Middle, which divides the whole Line into two equal Parts. For this Reason, many with Authors compare the present Time to an Ishmus or narrow Neck of Land, that rises in the midst of an Ocean, immeasurably diffused on either Side of it.

No. 55 PHILO ly throws call in En Eternity v ternitas a be more a Idea affix those Wor that is to the one E: an End, a LET U past, refer another Pa inconceival frates to u frame no I Contradicti any Duratio present; ar ain Distance Distance fr cannot be ion's being he Idea of he Idea of not to be for ure that the our felves wi

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HILO

PHILOSOPHY, and indeed common Sense, naturally throws Eternity under two Divisions; which we may call in English, that Eternity which is past, and that Eternity which is to come. The learned Terms of Æternitas a Parte ante, and Æternitas a Parte post, may be more amusing to the Reader, but can have no other Idea affixed to them than what is conveyed to us by those Words, an Eternity that is past, and an Eternity that is to come. Each of these Eternities is bounded at the one Extream; or, in other Words, the former has an End, and the latter a Beginning,

LET us first of all consider that Eternity which is mat, referving that which is to come for the Subject of another Paper. The Nature of this Eternity is utterly inconceivable by the Mind of Man: Our Reason demonfrates to us that it bas been, but at the same Time can frame no Idea of it, but what is big with Absurdity and Contradiction. We can have no other Conception of any Duration which is past, than that all of it was once present; and whatever was once present, is at some cerain Distance from us, and whatever is at any certain Distance from us, be the Distance never so remote, annot be Eternity. The very Notion of any Duraion's being past, implies that it was once present; for the Idea of being once present, is actually included in the Idea of its being past. This therefore is a Depth tot to be founded by human Understanding. We are we that there has been an Eternity, and yet contradict our selves when we measure this Eternity by any Notion which we can frame of it.

Is we go to the Bottom of this Matter, we shall find, hat the Difficulties we meet with in our Conceptions of Eternity proceed from this single Reason, that we can ave no other Idea of any kind of Duration, than that ywhich we our selves, and all other created Beings, do wist; which is, a successive Duration made up of past, resent, and to come. There is nothing which exists after this Manner, all the Parts of whose Existence were of once actually present, and consequently may be reached by a certain Number of Years applied to it. We may seem as high as we please, and employ our Being to that

Eternity which is to come, in adding Millions of Years to Millions of Years, and we can never come up to any Fountain Head of Duration, to any Beginning in Eter. nity: But at the same Time we are sure, that whatever was once prefent does lye within the Reach of Numbers. though perhaps we can never be able to put enough of them together for that Purpose. We may as well say, that any Thing may be actually present in any Part of infinite Space, which does not lye at a certain Distance from us, that any Part of infinite Duration was once actually prefent, and does not also lye at some determined Diflance from us. The Distance in both Cases may be immeasurable and indefinitive as to our Faculties, but our Reason tells us that it cannot be so in itself. Here therefore is that Difficulty which human Understanding is not capable of furmounting. We are fure that fomething must have existed from Eternity, and are at the same Time unable to conceive, that any Thing which exists, according to our Notion of Existence, can have existed from Eternity.

It is hard for a Reader, who has not rolled the Thought in his own Mind, to follow in such an abstracted Speculation; but I have been the longer on it, because I think it is a demonstrative Argument of the Being and Eternity of a God: And tho' there are many other Demonstrations which lead us to this great Truth, I do not think we ought to lay aside any Proofs in this Matter which the Light of Reason has suggested to us, especially when it is such a one as has been urged by Men samous for their Penetration, and Force of Understanding, and which appears altogether conclusive to those who will be at the Pains to examine

it.

HAVING thus confidered that Eternity which is past, according to the best Idea we can frame of it, I shall now draw up those several Articles on this Subject which are dictated to us by the Light of Reason, and which may be looked upon as the Creed of a Philosopher in this great Point.

No.590

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For my as Words think Men vance Doct which inde too modest Him who is fection, whall that Exirive from himility acknowly have exist after as

FIRST, It is certain that no Being could have made itself; for if so, it must have acted before it was, which is a Contradiction.

SECONDLY, That therefore some Being must have

existed from all Eternity.

THIRDLY, That whatever exists after the manner of created Beings, or according to any Notions which we have of Existence, could not have existed from Eternity.

FOURTHLY, That this eternal Being must therefore be the great Author of Nature, The Ancient of Days, who, being at an infinite Distance in his Perfections from all finite and created Beings, exists in a quite different manner from them, and in a manner of which they can

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I know that feveral of the Schoolmen, who would not be thought ignorant of any Thing, have pretended to explain the Manner of God's Existence, by telling us, That he comprehends infinite Duration in every Moment; This Eternity is with him a Punctum stans, a fixed Point; or, which is as good Sense, an Infinite Instance; That nothing with Reference to his Existence, is either past or to come: To which the ingenious Mr. Cowley alludes in his Description of Heaven,

Nothing is there to come, and nothing past, But an eternal NOW does always last.

For my own Part, I look upon these Propositions as Words that have no Ideas annexed to them; and think Men had better own their Ignorance, than advance Doctrines by which they mean nothing, and which indeed are self-contradictory. We cannot be too modest in our Disquisitions, when we meditate on Him who is environed with so, much Glory and Persection, who is the Source of Being, the Fountain of all that Existence which we and his whole Creation derive from him. Let us therefore with the utmost Humility acknowledge, that as some Being must necessarily have existed from Eternity, so this Being does exist after an incomprehensible Manner, since it is impossible

possible for a Being to have existed from Eternity after our Manner or Notions of Existence. Revelation confirms these natural Dictates of Reason in the Accounts which it gives us of the Divine Existence, where it tells us, that he is the same Yesterday, To-day, and for Ever; that he is the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the Ending; that a thousand Years are with him as one Day, and one Day as a thousand Years; by which and the like Expressions, we are taught, that his Existence, with relation to Time or Duration, is infinitely different from the Existence of any of his Creatures, and confequently that it is impossible for us to frame any adequate

Conceptions of it.

In the first Revelation which he makes of his own Being, he entitles himself, I am that I am; and when Moses defires to know what Name he shall give him in his Embassy to Pharaob, he bids him say that I am hath fent you. Our great Creator by this Revelation of himfelf, does in a manner exclude every Thing elfe from a real Existence, and distinguishes himself from his Creatures, as the only Being which truly and really exists. Thearcient Platonick Notion, which was drawn from Speculations of Eternity, wonderfully agrees with this Revelation which God has made of himself. There is nothing, fay they, which in Reality exists, whose Existence, as we call it, is pieced up of past, present, and to come. Such a flitting and successive Existence is rather a Shadow of Existence, and something which is like it, than Existence itself. He only properly exists, whose Existence is in tirely present; that is, in other Words, who exists in the most perfect Manner, and in such a Manner as we have no Idea of.

I shall conclude this Speculation with one useful laserence. How can we sufficiently prostrate ourselves and fall down before our Maker, when we consider that inestable Goodness and Wisdom which contrived this Existence for finite Natures? What must be the Overslowings of that Good-will, which prompted our Creator in adapt Existence to Beings, in whom it is not necessary! Especially when we consider that he himself was before in the compleat Possession of Existence and of Happiness and of Happiness.

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No. 191. The SPECTATOR.

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and in the full Enjoyment of Eternity. What Man can think of himself as called out and separated from nothing, of his being made a conscious, a reasonable and a happy Creature; in short, of being taken in as a Sharer of Existence and a kind of Partner in Eternity, without being swallowed up in Wonder, in Praise, in Adoration! It is indeed a Thought too big for the Mind of Man, and rather to be entertained in the Secrecy of Devotion, and in the Silence of the Soul, than to be expressed by Words. The Supreme Being has not given us Powers or Faculties sufficient to extol and magnify such unutterable Goodness.

It is however fome Comfort to us, that we shall be always doing what we shall be never able to do, and that a Work which cannot be finished, will however be the Work of an Eternity.

No. 591. Wednesday, September 8.

-Tenerorum lusor amorum.

Ovid.

I HAVE just received a Letter from a Gentleman, who tells me he has observed, with no small Concern, that my Papers have of late been very barren in relation to Love; a Subject which, when agreeably handled, can scarce fail of being well received by both Sexes.

IF my Invention therefore should be almost exhausted on this Head, he offers to serve under me in the Quality of a Love Casuist; for which Place he conceives himself to be thoroughly qualified, having made this Passion his principal Study, and observed it in all its different Shapes and Appearances, from the sisteenth to the forty-sisth Year of his Age.

HE assures me with an Air of Confidence, which I hope proceeds from his real Abilities, that he does not doubt of giving Judgment to the Satisfaction of the Parties concerned, on the most nice and intricate Cases which can happen in an Amour; as,

How great the Contraction of the Fingers must be,

before it amounts to a Squeeze by the Hand.

WHAT can be properly termed an absolute Denial

from a Maid, and what from a Widow.

WHAT Advances a Lover may presume to make, after having received a Pat upon his Shoulder from his Mistress's Fan.

WHETHER a Lady, at the first Interview, may allow an humble Servant to kiss her Hand.

How far it may be permitted to carefs the Maid, in order to succeed with the Mistress.

WHAT Constructions a Man may put upon a Smile, and in what Cases a Frown goes for nothing.

On what Occasions a sheepish Look may do Service,

89°C

As a farther Proof of his Skill, he has also sent me several Maxims in Love, which he assures me are the Result of a long and profound Reslection, some of which I think myself obliged to communicate to the Publick, not remembring to have seen them before in any Author.

'THERE are more Calamities in the World arising

from Love than from Hatred.

· Love is the Daughter of Idleness, but the Mother

of Disquietude.

MEN of grave Natures (says Sir Francis Bacon) are the most constant; for the same Reason Men should

be more constant than Women.

THE Gay Part of Mankind is most amorous, the

· Serious most loving.

A Coquet often loses her Reputation, whilft he

ferves her Virtue.

A Prude often preserves her Reputation when the

has lest her Virtue.

Love refines a Man's Behaviour, but makes a We-

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Whom she, a

· Lovi

LOVE is generally accompanied with Good-will in the Young, Interest in the Middle aged, and a Paffion too gross to name in the Old.

· THE Endeavours to revive a decaying Passion gene-

rally extinguish the Remains of it.

A Woman who from being a Slattern becomes overneat, or from being over-neat becomes a Slattern, is

most certainly in Love.

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I shall make Use of this Gentleman's Skill as I see Occasion; and since I am got upon the Subject of Love, shall conclude this Paper with a Copy of Verses which were lately sent me by an unknown Hand, as I look upon them to be above the ordinary Run of Sonneteers.

THE Author tells me they were written in one of his despairing Fits; and I find entertain some Hopes that his Mistress may pity such a Passion as he has described,

before the knows that the is herfelf Corinna.

Onceal, fond Man, conceal the mighty Smart, Nor tell Corinna she has fir'd thy Heart. In vain would'st thou complain, in vain pretend to ask a Pity which she must not lend. she's too much thy Superior to comply, . and too too fair to let thy Passion dye. languish in secret, and with dumb Surprize Drink the resistless Glances of her Eyes. at awful Distance entertain thy Grief, Be still in Pain, but never ask Relief. Neer tempt her Scorn of thy confuming State; Be any way undone, but fly ber Hate. bou must submit to see thy Charmer bless ome happier Youth that shall admire her less; Who in that lovely Form, that heav'nly Mind, ball miss ten thousand Beauties thou could'st find; bo with low Fancy shall approach her Charms, Vhile half enjoy'd she sinks into bis Arms. be knows not, must not know, thy nobler Fire, bom she, and whom the Muses do inspire;

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Her Image only shall thy Breast employ, And fill thy captiv'd Soul with Shades of Joy; Direct thy Dreams by Night, thy Thoughts by Day; And never, never, from thy Bosom stray.

No. 592. Friday, September 10.

Studium sine divite Vena.

Hor.

LOOK upon the Play-house as a World within itself. They have lately furnished the middle Region of it with a new Set of Meteors, in order to give the Sublime to many modern Tragedies. I was there last Winter at the first Rehearsal of the new Thunder, which is much more deep and fonorous than any hitherto made used They have a Salmoneus behind the Scenes, who playst off with great Success. Their Lightnings are made! flash more briskly than heretofore; their Clouds areal better furbelow'd, and more voluminous; not to ma tion a violent Storm locked up in a great Chest thatist figned for the Tempest. They are also provided with above a dozen Showers of Snow, which, as I amin formed, are the Plays of many unfuccessful Poets, and ficially cut and shred for that Use. Mr. Rimer's Edw is to fall in Snow at the next acting of King Lear, in order to heighten, or rather alleviate the Distress of that the fortunate Prince; and to serve by way of Decoration a Piece which that great Critick has written against.

I no not indeed wonder that the Actors should be such professed Enemies to those among out Nation who are commonly known by the Name of Criticks, since it is a Rule among these Gentlemen to fall upon a Play, not because it is ill written, but because it takes. We veral of them lay it down as a Maxim, That whaten Dramatick Performance has a long Run, must of the cessity be good for nothing; as though the first Present

No. 592 in Poetry good or no who are b fure it ten men who been difgra being fo ex give them I have Aristotle an Quintilian the French fet up for p hey do no with Elega iterate, th guages, and it second 1 ave writte Authors the iment, and hority, giv vho are apt re unintell he Praises o ies which e ery often f ach little S e Writing nost of the S s, make it ew Product ary Blemist at what pa aults and E cks compar Jorks of th hilosophers ENVY and

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in Poetry were not to please. Whether this Rule holds good or not, I shall leave to the Determination of those who are better Judges than myself: If it does, I am fure it tends very much to the Honour of those Gentlemen who have established it; few of their Pieces having been difgraced by a Run of three Days, and most of them being so exquisitely written, that the Town would never

give them more than one Night's Hearing.

I have a great Esteem for a true Critick, such as Aristotle and Longinus among the Greeks, Horace and Quintilian among the Romans, Boileau and Dacier among the French. But it is our Misfortune, that some who et up for professed Criticks amongst us are so stupid, that hey do not know how to put ten Words together with Elegance or common Propriety, and withal so iliterate, that they have no Taste of the learned Languages, and therefore criticise upon old Authors only t fecond Hand. They judge of them by what others ave written, and not by any Notions they have of the Authors themselves. The Words Unity, Action, Seniment, and Diction, pronounced with an Air of Auhority, give them a Figure among unlearned Readers, tho are apt to believe they are very deep, because they re unintelligible. The ancient Criticks are full of he Praises of their Contemporaries; they discover Beauis which escaped the Observation of the Vulgar, and ery often find out Reasons for paliating and excusing ich little Slips and Overfights as were committed in he Writings of eminent Authors. On the contrary, of the Smatterers in Criticism who appear among , make it their Business to vilify and depreciate every w Production that gains Applause, to descry imagiary Blemishes, and to prove by far-fetched Arguments, hat what pass'd for Beauties in any celebrated Piece are aults and Errors. In short, the Writings of these Cricks compared with those of the Ancients, are like the orks of the Sophists compared with those of the old hilosophers.

Envy and Cavil are the natural Fruits of Laziness d Ignorance; which was probably the Reason, that the Heathen Mythology Momus is faid to be the VOL. VIII.

Son of Nox and Somnus, of Darkness and Sleep. Ide Men, who have not been at the Pains to accomplia or distinguish themselves, are very apt to detract from others; as ignorant Men are very subject to decry those Beauties in a celebrated Work which they have not Eyes to discover. Many of our Sons of Momus, who dignify themselves by the Name of Criticks, are the genuine Descendants of those two illustrious Anceston They are often led into those numerous Absurdities, in which they daily instruct the People, by not considering that, 1st, There is sometimes a greater Judg. ment shewn in deviating from the Rules of Art, than in adhering to them; and adly, That there is more Beauty in the Works of a great Genius who is ignorant of all the Rules of Art, than in the Works of a little Genius, who not only knows, but scrupulously observe them.

FIRST, We may often take Notice of Men who are perfectly acquainted with all the Rules of good Writing, and notwithstanding chuse to depart from them on extraordinary Occasions. I could give la stances out of all the Tragick Writers of Antiquity who have shewn their Judgment in this Particular; and purposely receded from an established Rule of the Dram, when it has made way for a much higher Eeauty that the Observation of such a Rule would have been Those who have surveyed the noblest Pieces of Architecture and Statuary both ancient and modern, know very well that there are frequent Deviations from Art in the Works of the greatest Masters, which have produced a much nobler Effect than a more accurate and exact way of Proceeding could have done. This often arises from what the Italians call the Gusto Grand in these Arts, which is what we call the Sublime

In the next Place, our Criticks do not feem fensible that there is more Beauty in the Works of a great Genius who is ignorant of the Rules of Art, than in those of a little Genius who knows and observes them is of these Men of Genius that Terence speaks, in Opposition to the little artificial Cavillers of his Time;

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No. 593

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Quorum æmulari exoptat negligentiam. Potius, quam istorum obscuram diligentiam.

A Critick may have the same Consolation in the ill Success of his Play, as Dr. South tells us a Physician has at the Death of a Patient, That he was killed secundum artem. Our inimitable Shakespear in a Stumbling Block to the whole Tribe of these rigid Criticks. Who would not rather read one of his Plays, where there is not a single Rule of the Stage observed, than any Production of a modern Critick, where there is not one of them violated? Shakespear was indeed born with all the Seeds of Poetry, and may be compared to the Stone in Pyrzbus's Ring, which, as Pliny tells us, had the Figure of Apollo and the Nine Muses in the Veins of it, produced by the spontaneous Hand of Nature, without any Help from Art.

No. 593. Monday, September 13.

Quale per incertam Lunam sub luce maligna Est iter in Sylvis: Virg.

MY dreaming Correspondent, Mr. Shallow, has fent me a second Letter, with several curious Observations on Dreams in general, and the Method to render Sleep improving; An Extract of his Letter, will not, I presume, be disagreeable to my Readers.

SINCE we have so little Time to spare, that none of it may be lost, I see no Reason why we should neglect to examine those imaginary Scenes we are presented with in Sleep, only because they have less Reality in them than our waking Meditations. A Traveller would bring his Judgment in G 2

No. 503. The SPECTATOR. 1 26 " Question who should despise the Directions of his " Map for want of real Roads in it, because here flands a Dott instead of a Town, or a Cypher instead of a City, and it must be a long Day's Journey to travel thro' two or three Inches. Fancy in Dreams gives us much fuch another Landskip of Life as that does of Countries, and tho' its Appearances may feem frangely jumbled together, we may often observe fuch Traces and Footsteps of noble Thoughts, as, if carefully purfued, might lead us into a proper Path of Action. There is fo much Rapture and Ecstasy in our fancied Bliss, and something so dismal and shocking in our fancied Mifery, that tho' the Inactivity of the Body has given Occasion for calling Sleep the Image of Death, the Briskness of the Fancy affords

us a strong Intimation of something within us that

can never die. ' I have wondered, that Alexander the Great, who came into the World sufficiently dreamt of by his · Parents, and had himfelf a tolerable Knack at dreaming, should often fay, that Sleep was one thing which made him sensible he was Mortal. I who have not fuch Fields of Action in the Day-time to divert my Attention from this Matter, plainly perceive, that in those Operations of the Mind, while the Body is at rest, there is a certain Vastness of Conception very fuitable to the Capacity, and demonstrative of the Force of that Divine Part in our Composition which will last for ever. Neither do I much doubt but had we a true Account of the Wonders of the Hero lat mentioned performed in his Sleep, his conquering this little Globe would hardly we worth mentioning. I may affirm, without Vanity, that when I compare several Actions in Quintus Curtius with some others in my own Noctuary, I appear the greater Hen of the two.

I shall close this Subject with observing, that while we are awake we are at Liberty to fix our Thoughts on what we please, but in Sleep we have not the Command of them. The Ideas which strike the Fancy, arise in us without our Choice, either from the Occurrence No 50 of the D be the D IT is affected i either rev

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Mr. Shadon o manner of off Letter; b dreams very ome Night of hich Virgil 1 of the Day past, the Temper we lye down in, or it may

he the Direction of some superior Being.

IT is certain the Imagination may be so differently affected in Sleep, that our Actions of the Day might be either rewarded or punished with a little Age of Happiness or Misery. St. Austin was of Opinion, that if in Paradife there was the same Vicissitude of sleeping and waking as in the present World, the Dreams of its Inhabitants would be very happy.

AND so far at present our Dreams are in our Power. that they are generally conformable to our waking Thoughts, fo that it is not impossible to convey ourselves to a Confort of Musick, the Conversation of distant Friends, or any other Entertainment which has been be-

fore lodged in the Mind.

My Readers, by appling these Hints will find the Necessity of making a good Day of it, if they heartily wish themselves a good Night.

I have often confider'd Marcia's Prayer, and Lucius's

Account of Cato, in this Light.

Marc. O ye immortal Powers, that guard the July Watch round his Couch, and foften his Repose, Banish his Sorrows, and becalm his Soul. With easy Dreams; remember all his Virtues! And show Mankind that Goodness is your Care. Luc. Sweet are the Slumbers of the virtuous Man! Marcia, I have feen thy Godlike Father; Some Pow'r invisible supports his Soul, 971 15 7107:03 And bears it up in all its wonted Greatness, A kind refreshing Sleep is fallen upon him: faw bim fretch'd at Ease, bis Fancy lost n pleasing Dreams; as I drew near his Couch, de smil'd, and cry'd, Cæsar thou canst not burt me.

Mr. Shadow acquaints me in a Postscript, that he has o manner of Title to the Vision which succeeded his ift Letter; but adds, that as the Gentleman who wrote dreams very fenfibly, he shall be glad to meet him me Night or other, under the great Elm Tree, by hich Virgil has given us a fine Metaphorical Image of

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at while ights on e ComSleep, in order to turn over a few of the Leaves together, and oblige the Publick with an Account of the Dreams that lye under them.



No. 594. Wednesday, September 15.

Absentem qui rodit amicum,
Qui non defendit, alio culpante; solutos
Qui captat risus hominum, famamque dicacis,
Fingere qui non visa potest, commissa tacere
Qui nequit, bic niger est: bunc tu Romane caveto. Hor.

WERE all the Vexations of Life put together, we should find that a great Part of them proceed from those Calumnies and Reproaches which we

spread abroad concerning one another.

THERE is scarce a Man living who is not, in some Degree, guilty of this Offence; tho, at the same Time, however we treat one another, it must be confessed, that we all consent in speaking ill of the Persons who are notorious for this Practice. It generally takes its Rise either from an Ill-will to Mankind, a private Inclination to make ourselves esteemed, an Ostentation of Wit, and Vanity of being thought in the Secrets of the World, or from a Desire of gratifying any of these Dispositions of Mind in those Persons with whom we converse.

THE Publisher of Scandal is more or less odious to Mankind, and criminal in himself, as he is influenced by any one or more of the foregoing Motives. But whatever may be the Occasion of spreading these false Reports, he ought to consider, that the Effect of them is equally prejectical and permicious to the Person at whom they are aimed. The Injury is the same, tho the Principle from whence it proceeds may be different.

As every one looks upon himself with too much Indulgence, when he passes a Judgment on his own Thought No. 59 Thought guilty of verfally p blamed, have a M fore he ft tion of M

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Thoughts or Actions, and as very few would be thought guilty of this abominable Proceeding, which is so universally practised, and at the same Time, so universally blamed, I shall lay down three Rules by which I would have a Man examine and search into his own Heart, before he stands acquitted to himself of that evil Disposition of Mind which I am here mentioning.

First of all, LET him consider whether he dees not

take delight in hearing the Faults of others.

Secondly, WHETHER he is not too ape to believe such little blackning Accounts, and more inclined to be credulous on the uncharitable than on the good natured side.

Thirdly, WHETHER he is not ready to spread and propagate such Reports as tend to the Disreputation of another.

THESE are the feveral Steps by which this Vice proceeds, and grows up into Slander and Defamation.

In the first Place, A Man who takes Delight in hearing the Faults of others, shews sufficiently that he has a true Relish of Scandal, and consequently the Seeds of this Vice within him. If his Mind is gratified with hearing the Reproaches which are cast on others, he will find the same Pleasure in relating them, and be the more apt to do it, as he will naturally imagine every one he converses with is delighted in the same manner with himself. A Man should endeavour therefore to wear out of his Mind this criminal Curiosity, which is perpetually heighten'd and instanced by listning to such stories as tend to the Disreputation of others.

In the fecond Place, a Man should consult his own Heart, whether he be not apt to believe such little blackening Accounts, and more inclined to be creduous on the uncharitable, than on the good-natured Side. Such a Credulity is very vicious in itiels and generally arises from a Man's Consciousness of his own cret Corruptions. It is a pretty Saying of Thales, alshood is just as far distant from Truth, as the Ears te from the Eyes. By which he would intimate, hat a wise Man should not easily give Credit to the eports of Actions which he has not seen. I shall,

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under this Head, mention two or three remarkable Rule to be observed by the Members of the celebrated Abby de la Trape, as they are published in a little French Book.

THE Fathers are there ordered, never to give an Ear to any Accounts of base or criminal Actions; to turn off all fuch Discourse if possible; but in Case they hear any Thing of this Nature fo well attefted that they cannot disbelieve it, they are then to suppose, that the criminal Action may have proceeded from a good In. tention in him who is guilty of it. This is perhaps car. rying Charity to an Extravagance, but it is certainly much more laudable, than to suppose, as the ill-natured Part of the World does, that indifferent and even good Actions, proceed from bad Principles and wrong Intentions.

In the third Place, a Man should examine his Hear, whether he does not find in it a fecret Inclination to propagate fuch Reports, as tend to the Difreputational another.

WHEN the Disease of the Mind, which I have hitherto been speaking of, arises to this Degree of Malignity it discovers itself in its worst Symptoms, and a in Danger of becoming incurable. I need not therefore infift upon the Guilt in this last Particular, which every one cannot but disapprove, who is not void of Humanity, or even common Discretion. I shall only add, that whatever Pleasure any Man may take in spreading Whispers of this Nature, he will find an infinitely greater Satisfaction in conquering the Temptation he is under, by letting the Secret die within his own Breaft, BUDGE HERE & PERCHAPATE

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No. 595. Friday, September 17.

_Non ut placidis coeant immitia, non ut Serpentes avibus geminenter, tigribus agni. Hor.

I fordinary Authors would condescend to write as they think, they would at least be allowed the Praise of being intelligible. But they really take Pains to be ridiculous; and, by the studied Ornaments of Style, perfectly disguise the little Sense they aim at. There is a Grievance of this Sort in the Common-wealth of Letters, which I have for some Time resolved to redress, and accordingly I have set this Day apart for Justice. What I mean is the Mixture of inconsistent Metaphors, which is a Fault but too often found in learned Writers, but in all the unlearned without Exception.

In order to fet this Matter in a clear Light to every Reader, I shall in the first Place observe, that a Metaphor is a Simile in one Word, which serves to convey the Thoughts of the Mind under Resemblances and Images which affect the Senses. There is not any Thing in the World, which may not be compared to feveral Things, if confidered in feveral distinct Lights; or, in ther Words, the same Thing may be expressed by diferent Metaphors. But the Mischief is, that an unskilal Author shall run these Metaphors so absurdly into me another, that there shall be no Simile, no agreeable Picture, no apt Resemblance, but Confusion, Obscurity nd Noise. Thus I have known a Hero compared to Thunderbolt, a Lion, and the Sea; all and each of hem proper Metaphors for Impetuofity, Courage or orce. But by bad Management it hath so happened, hat the Thunderbolt hath overflowed its Banks; the ion hath been darted thro' the Skies; and the Billows ave rolled out of the Libyan Defart.

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confiftent, and which inconfiftent. THERE is yet one Evil more which I must take Notice of, and that is the running of Metaphors into tedious Allegories; which, though an Error on the better Hand, causes Confusion as much as the other; this becomes abominable, when the Lustre of one Word leads a Writer out of his Road. and makes him wander from his Subject for a Page together. I remember a young Fellow of this Turn, who having faid by Chance that his Mistress had a World of Charms, there upon took Occasion to consider her as one possessed of frig d and torrid Zones, and pursued her from the out Pole to the other.

Heterogeneous; or to speak more plainly, which are

I shall conclude this Paper with a Letter written a that enormous Style, which I hope my Reader had

No. 55 by this T heretofore been faid,

SIR ' A FT A fre ' all the L ' You hav that cou without be Cappe for all, never Sm which y Monume thefe Bat to Ballan been Fift fatuus ha built upo Hogs to a

No. 596.

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HE C followi fical, t better the

The SPECTATOR. No. 596. by this Time fet his Heart against. The Epistle hath heretofore received great Applause; but after what hath been faid, let any Man commend it if he dare.

SIR. A FTER the many heavy Lashes that have fallen from your Pen, you may justly expect in Return 'all the Load that my Ink can lay upon your Shoulders. You have Quartered all the foul Language upon me, that could be raked out of the Air of Billing sgate, without knowing who I am, or whether I deserve to be Capped and Scarified at this rate. I tell you once for all, turn your Eyes where you please, you shall never Smell me out. Do you think that the Panicks. which you fow about the Parish, will ever build a Monument to your Glory? No, Sir, you may Fight these Battles as long as you will, but when you come to Ballance the Account, you will find that you have been Fishing in troubled Waters, and that an Ignis fatuus hath bewildered you, and that indeed you have built upon a fandy Foundation, and brought your Hogs to a fair Market.

I am SIR.

Yours, &c.

No. 196. Monday, September 20.

Molle meum levibus Cor est violabile Telis.

Ovid.

THE Case of my Correspondent who sends me the tollowing Letter has fomewhat in it fo very whimfical, that I know not how to entertain my Reabetter than by laying it before them.

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· T A M fully convinced that there is not upon Earth a more impertinent Creature than an importunate Lover: We are daily complaining of the Severity of our Fate, to People who are wholly unconcerned in it; and hourly improving a Passion, which we would persuade the World is the Torment of our Lives. · Notwithstanding this Reflection, Sir, I cannot forbear acquainting you with my own Cafe. You must know then, Sir, that even from my Childhood, the most prevailing Inclination I could perceive in my felf. was a strong Defire to be in favour with the fair Sex. I am at present in the one and twentieth · Year of my Age, and should have made Choice of a She Bed-fellow many Years fince, had not my Father, who has a pretty good Estate of his own getting, and passes in the World for a prudent Man, been e pleased to lay it down as a Maxim, That nothing fpoils a young Fellow's Fortune fo much as marrying early; and that no Man ought to think of Wedlock till fix and twenty. Knowing his Sentiments upon this Head, I thought it in vain to apply myself to Women of Condition, who expect Settlements; for that all my Amours have hitherto been with Ladies who had no Fortunes: But I know not how to give vou so good an Idea of me, as by laying before you

the History of my Life,
I can very well remember, that at my School mistresses, whenever we broke up I was always for joining myself with the Miss who Lay in, and was constantly one of the first to make a Party in the Play of Husband and Wife. This Passion for being well with the Females, still increased as I always and was constantly one of the first to make a Party in the Play of Husband and Wife. This Passion for being well with the Females, still increased as I always and was a still increased as I always a still increased as I always and was a still increased as I always and a still increased as I always a still increased as I

ed fo many Quarrels by struggling with my Fellow-scholars for the Fartner I liked best, that upon a Ball Night, before our Mothers made that

Appearance, I was usually up to the Nose in Blood
My Father, like a discreet Man, soon removed as
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No. 596: The SPECTATOR. 145

where I learnt Latin and Greek. I underwent feveral
Severities in this Place, 'till it was thought convenient
to fend me to the University; though, to confess the
Truth, I should not have arrived so early at that Seat of
Learning, but from the Discovery of an Intrigue between me and my Master's House-keeper; upon
whom I had employed my Rhetorick so effectually,
that, though she was a very elderly Lady, I had almost
brought her to consent to marry me. Upon my Arrival
at Oxford, I found Logick so dry, that instead of gi-

ving Attention to the Dead, I foon fell to addressing the Living. My first Amour was with a pretty Girl whom I shall call Parthenope: Her Mother sold Ale by the

Town-wall. Being often caught there by the Proctor, I was forced at last, that my Mistress's Reputation

might receive no Blemish, to confess my Addresses were honourable. Upon this I was immediately sent

home; but Parthenope foon after marrying a Shoemaker, I was again suffered to return. My next Affair

was with my Taylor's Daughter, who deferted me for the sake of a young Barber. Upon my complaining to

one of my particular Friends on this Misfortune, the cruel Wagg made a mere Jest of my Calamity, and ask-

ed me with a Smile, Where the Needle should turn but to the Pole? After this I was deeply in Love with a

'Milliner, and at last with my Bed-maker, upon which 'I was fent away, or in the University Phrase, Rusti-

' cated for ever.

'Upon my coming home, I fettled to my Stu-'dies so heartily, and contracted so great a Reservedness 'by being kept from the Company I most affected, that 'my Father thought he might venture me at the Tem-'ple.

WITHIN a Week after my Arrival I began to finine again, and became enamoured with a mighty pretty Creature, who had every Thing but Money to recommend her. Having frequent Opportunities of uttering all the foft Things which an Heart formed for Love could inspire me with, I soon gained her Consent to treat of Marriage; but unfortunately to us all, in the Absence of my Charmer I usually

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talked the fame Language to her elder Sifter, who is al. fo very pretty. Now I affure you, Mr. SPECTA. TOR, this did not proceed from any real Affection I had conceived for her; but being a perfect Stranger to the · Conversation of Men, and strongly addicted to affociate with the Women, I knew no other Language but that of Love. I should however be very much obliged to you, if you could free me from the Perplexity I am at present in. I have sent Word to my old Gentleman in the Country, that I am desperately in Love with the younger Sifter! and her Father, who knew no better, poor Man, acquainted him by the same Post, that I had for some Time made my Addresses to the Elder. Upon this old Testy sends me up Word, that he has heard fo much of my Exploits, that he intends immediately to order me to the South-Sea. Sir, I have occasionally talked so much of dying, that I begin to think there is not much in it; and if the old Squire perfists in his Defign, I do hereby give him Notice that I am providing myself with proper Instruments for the Destruction of despairing Lovers; let him there fore look to it, and confider that by his Obstinacy he may himself lose the Son of his Strength, the World an hopeful Lawyer, my Mistress a passionate Lover, and you, Mr. SPECTATOR,

Middle Temple Sept. 18. Your constant Admirer,

Jeremy Lovemore,

Wednesda,

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No. 597. Wednesday, September 22.

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Petr.

SINCE I received my Friend Shadow's Letter, several of my Correspondents have been pleased to send me an Account how they have been employed in Sleep, and what notable Adventures they have been engaged in during that Moonshine in the Brain. I shall lay before my Readers an Abridgment of some few of their Extravagancies, in hopes that they will in Time accussom themselves to dream a little more to the Purpose.

ONE who styles himself Gladio, complains heavily that his Fair one charges him with Inconstancy, and does not use him with half the Kindness which the Sincerity of his Passion may demand; the said Gladio having by Valour and Stratagem put to Death Tyrants, Inchanters, Monsters, Knights, &c. without Number, and exposed himself to all manner of Dangers for her Sake and Sasety. He desires in his Postscript to know, whether, from a constant Success in them, he may not promise himself to succeed in her Esteem at last.

ANOTHER who is very prolix in his Narrative writes me Word, that having fent a Venture beyond Sea, he took Occasion one Night to fancy himself gone along with it, and grown on a sudden the richest Man in all the Indies. Having been there about a Year or two, a Gust of Wind that forced open his Casement blew him over to his native Country again, whereawaking at Six a-Clock, and the Change of the Air not agreeing with him, he turned to his Left Side in order to a second Voyage; but e're he could get on Shipboard, was unfortunately apprehended for stealing a Horse, try'd and condemn'd for the Fact, and in a fair way of being executed, if some Body stepping

No. 507 ping haftily into his Chamber had not brought him ake prieve. This Fellow too wants Mr. Shadow's Advice

who. I dare fay, would bid him be content to rife after his first Nap, and learn to be satisfied as soon as Nature THE next is a publick-spirited Gentleman who tells me. That on the second of September at Night the whole City was on Fire, and would certainly have been reduced to Ashes again by this Time, if he had not flown over with the New River on his Back, and happily extinguish.

ed the Flames before they had prevailed too far. He

would be informed whether he had not a Right to

petition the Lord Mayor and Aldermen for a Re-

A Letter dated September the ninth acquaints me That the Writer being resolved to try his Fortune, had fasted all that Day; and that he might be fure of dream. ing upon fomething at Night, procured an handsome Slice of Bride-cake, which he placed very conveniently under his Pillow. In the Morning his Memory happened to fail him, and he could recollect nothing but an old Fancy that he had eaten his Cake; which being found upon Search reduced to a few Crumbs, he is resolved in remember more of his Dreams another Time, believing from this that there may possibly be somewhat of Truth in them.

I have received numerous Complaints from several de licious Dreamers, desiring me to invent some Method d filencing those noify Slaves whose Occupations lead them to take their early Rounds about the City in a Morning, doing a deal of Mischief, and working strange Confusion in the Affairs of its Inhabitants. Several Monarcia have done me the Honour to acquaint me, how often they have been shook from their respective Thrones by the rattling of a Coach or the rumbling of a Wheel-barrow. And many private Gentlemen, I find, have been bauld out of vast Estates by Fellows not worth Three-pence A fair Lady was just upon the Point of being married to young, handsome, rich, ingenious Nobleman, when a impertinent Tinker passing by forbid the Banns; and a hopeful Youth, who had been newly advanced to great Honour and Preferment, was forced by a neighbouring Cobla

No. 507 Cobler to d to me, out go abo unes, im errupting Generals i Peripatetic alf a doz lean Shoe ing Shove Letter fr Hours cam nade War oot, and inople: T he 12th In erial Majo On the Gratitude f lamorous ' ortunes. hele distress rifonment. norrow to a otent Ener im to noth as often be es of a Ca y the Soun

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Cobler to refign all for an old Song. It has been reprefentd to me, that those inconsiderable Rascals do nothing out go about dissolving of Marriages and spoiling of Forunes, impoverishing rich and ruining great People, inerrupting Beauties in the midst of their Conquests, and Generals in the Course of their Victories. A boisterous Peripatetick hardly goes thro' a Street without waking alf a dozen Kings and Princes to open their Shops or lean Shoes, frequently transforming Scepters into Paing Shovels, and Proclamations into Bills. I have by me Letter from a young Statesman, who in five or fix Hours came to be Emperor of Europe, after which he nade War upon the Great Turk, routed him Horse and foot, and was crowned Lord of the Universe in Constaninoble: The Conclusion of all his Successes is, that on he 12th Instant, about seven in the Morning, his Imerial Majesty was deposed by a Chimney-sweeper.

On the other Hand I have Epistolary Testimonies of Gratitude from many miserable People, who owe to this lamorous Tribe frequent Deliverances from great Misortunes. A Small-coal Man, by waking of one of hese distressed Gentlemen, saved him from ten Years Imprisonment. An honest Watchman bidding a loud Goodnorrow to another, freed him from the Malice of many otent Enemies, and brought all their Designs against him to nothing. A certain Valetudinarian confesses he as often been cured of a sore Throat by the Hoarseless of a Carman, and relieved from a Fit of the Gout by the Sound of old Shoes. A noisy Puppy that plagued fober Gentleman all Night long with his Impertience, was silenced by a Cinder-wench with a Word

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Instead therefore of suppressing this Order of Morals, I would propose it to my Readers to make the best dvantage of their Morning Salutations. A famous Macemian Prince, for fear of forgetting himself in the midst of is good Fortune, had a Youth to wait on him every Morng, and bid him remember that he was a Man. A Citizen ho is waked by one of these Criers, may regard him as kind of Remembrancer, come to admonish him that is time to return to the Circumstances he had over-

looked

150 The SPECTATOR. No. 579.

looked all the Night-time, to leave off fancying himself what he is not, and prepare to act suitably to the Con-

dition he is really placed in.

PEOPLE may dream on as long as they please, but I shall take no Notice of any imaginary Adventures that do not happen while the Sun is on this Side the Horizon. For which Reason I stifle Fritilla's Dream at Church last Sunday, who while the rest of the Audience were enjoying the Benefit of an excellent Discourse, was losing her Money and Jewels to a Gentleman at Play, till after a strange Run of ill Luck, she was reduced to pawn three lovely pretty Children for her last Stake. When she had thrown them away her Companion went off, discovering himself by his usual Tokens, a cloven Foot and a strong Smell of Brimstone; which last proved only a Bottle of Spirits, which a good old Lady applied to her Nose, to put her in a Condition of hearing the Preacher's third Head concerning Time.

IF a Man has no Mind to pass abruptly from his imagined to his real Circumstances, he may employ himself a while in that new kind of Observation which my Onicrocritical Correspondent has directed him to make of himself. Pursuing the Imagination through all its Extravagancies, whether in Sleeping or Waking, is no improper Method of correcting and bringing it to act in Subordinancy to Reason, so as to be delighted only with such Objects as will affect it with Pleasure, when it is

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No. 598. Friday, September 24.

Jamne igitur laudas, quod de sapientibus alter Ridebat, quoties a limine moverat unum Protuleratque pedem: slebat contrarius alter? Juv.

MANKIND may be divided into the merry and the serious, who, both of them, make a very good Figure in the Species, so long as they keep their respective Humours from degenerating into the neighbouring Extreme; there being a natural Tendency in the one to a melancholy Moroseness, and in the other

to a fantaflick Levity.

THE merry Part of the World are very amiable, whilft they diffuse a Chearfulness through Conversation at proper Seasons and on proper Occasions; but, on the contrary, a great Grievance to Society, when they insect every Discourse with insipid Mirth, and turn into Ridicule such Subjects as are not suited to it. For though Laughter is looked upon by the Philosophers as the Property of Reason, the Excess of it has been always considered as the Mark of Folly.

On the other Side, Seriousness has its Beauty whilst it is attended with Chearfulness and Humanity, and does not come in unseasonably to pall the good Humour of

those with whom we converse.

THESE two Sets of Men, notwithstanding they each of them thine in their respective Characters, are apt to bear a natural Aversion and Antipathy to one another.

WHAT is more usual, than to hear Men of serious. Tempers, and austere Morals, enlarging upon the Vanities and Follies of the young and gay Part of the Speties; whilst they look with a kind of Horror upon such Pomps and Diversions as are innocent in them-

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172 The SPECTATOR. No. 598, felves, and only culpable when they draw the Mind to

much?

I could not but smile upon reading a Passage in the Account which Mr. Baxter gives of his own Life, wherein he represents it as a great Blessing, that in his Youth he very narrowly escaped getting a Place at Court.

IT must indeed be confessed that Levity of Temper takes a Man off his Guard, and opens a Pass to his Soul for any Temptation that assaults it. It favours all the Approaches of Vice, and weakens all the Resistance of Virtue. For which Reason a renowned Statesman is Queen Elizabeth's Days, after having retir'd from Coun and publick Business, in order to give himself up to the Duties of Religion; when any of his old Friends used to visit him, had still this Word of Advice in his Mouth, Be serious.

An eminent Italian Author of this Cast of Mind, speaking of the great Advantage of a serious and composed Temper, wishes very gravely, that for the Benefit of Mankind he had Trophonius's Cave in his Possession; which, says he, would contribute more to the Resormation of Manners than all the Work-houses and Bride

wells in Europe.

We have a very particular Description of this Care in Pausanias, who tells us, that it was made in the Form of a huge Oven, and had many particular Circumstances, which disposed the Person who was in it to be most pensive and thoughtful than ordinary; informuch that no Man was ever observed to laugh all his Life after, who had once made his Entry into this Cave. It was usual in those Times, when any one carried a more than ordinary Gloomines in his Features, to tell him that he socked like one just come out of Trophonius's Cave.

On the other Hand, Writers of a more meny Complexion have been no less severe on the opposite Party, and have had one Advantage above them, that they have attacked them with more Turns of Wit and

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AFTER all, if a Man's Temper were at his own Disposal, I think he would not chuse to be of either of these Parties; since the most perfect Character is that which is formed out of both of them. A Man would neither chuse to be a Hermit nor a Bussion: Human Nature is not so miserable, as that we should be always melancholy; nor so happy, as that we should be always merry. In a Word, a Man should not live as if there was no God in the World; nor, at the same Time, as if there were no Men in it.

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No. 599. Monday, September 27.

Luctus, ubique pavor -

Virg.

T has been my Custom, as I grow old, to allow my felf in some little Indulgencies which I never took in my Youth. Among others is that of an Afteroon's Nap, which I fell into in the fifty fifth Year my Age, and have continued for the three last Years off. By this means I enjoy a double Morning, and le twice a-day fresh to my Speculations. It happens ry luckily for me, that some of my Dreams have oved instructive to my Countrymen, fo that I may faid to fleep, as well as to wake for the good of the blick. I was Yesterday meditating on the Account ith which I have already entertained my Readers conming the Cave of Trophonius. I was no sooner fallen to my usual Slumber, but I dreamt that this Cave was t into my Poffession, and that I gave publick Notice its Virtue, inviting every one to it, who had a mind be a ferious Man for the remaining Part of his Life. reat Multitudes immediately reforted to me. The first to made the Experiment was a Merry-Andrew, who was t into my Hands by a neighbouring Justice of Peace, order to reclaim him from that profligate kind of Life. Poor

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Poor Pickle-herring had not taken above one Turn in it when he came out of the Cave, like a Hermit from his Cell, with a penitential Look, and a most rueful Cous. tenance. I then put in a young laughing Fop, and watching for his Return, asked him, with a Smile how he liked the Place? He replied, Pr'ythee Friendle not impertinent; and stalked by me as grave as a Judge. A Citizen then defired me to give free Ingress and Egress to his Wife, who was dressed in the gayest co. loured Ribbons I had ever feen. She went in with a Flirt of her Fan and a smirking Countenance, but came out with the Severity of a Vestal, and throwing from he feveral female Gugaws, told me with a Sigh, that he refolved to go into deep Mourning, and to wear Blackal the rest of her Life. As I had many Coquets recommended to me by their Parents, their Husbands, and their Lovers, I let them in all at once, defiring them to divert themselves together as well as they could. Up on their emerging again into Day-light, you would have fancied my Cave to have been a Nunnery, and that you had feen a folemn Procession of Religion marching out, one behind another, in the most prefound Silence and the most exemplary Decency. All was very much delighted with fo edifying a Sight there came towards me a great Company of Malsa Females laughing, finging, and dancing, in such a maner that I could hear them a great while before I in them. Upon my asking their Leader, what brough them thither? they told me all at once, that they we French Protestants lately arrived in Great-Britain, 11 that finding themselves of too gay a Humour for Country, they applied themselves to me in order compose them for British Conversation. I told the that to oblige them I would foon spoil their Mirth; on which I admitted a whole Shole of them, who, ter having taken a Survey of the Place, came out very good Order, and with Looks entirely English. afterwards put in a Dutch Man, who had a great Fang fee the Kelder, as he called it, but I could not ober that it had made any manner of Alteration in him.

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of Athens I then to qualify a young F to me by and Surpri furrounded Religion, fober Lool been in th other, and it, they al of their V in their Ha Place. I in their first wickly bri hem into t Change was THE laf nan, who n immoder er Sides all Jpon this I Daughter by etire into m Cafe. I the then the N Sirl's Ruder ather and nanner; tha er Companio ay, that she

a Sermon,

No. 599. The SPECTATOR.

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A Comedian who had gained great Reputation in Parts of Humour. told me, that he had a mighty Mind to all Alexander the Great, and fancied that he should succeed very well in it, if he could strike two or three laughing Features out of his Face: He tried the Experiment, but contracted so very solid a Look by it, that I am afraid he will be sit for no Part hereafter but a Timon

of Athens, or a Mute in the Funeral.

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I then clapt up an empty fantastick Citizen, in order to qualify him for an Alderman. He was succeeded by a young Rake of the Middle-Temple, who was brought to me by his Grandmother; but to her great Sorrow and Surprize, he came out a Quaker. Seeing my felf furrounded with a Body of Free-thinkers, and Scoffers at Religion, who were making themselves merry at the fober Looks and thoughtful Brows of those who had been in the Cave; I thrust them all in, one after another, and locked the Door upon 'em. Upon my opening it, they all looked, as if they had been frighted out of their Wits, and were marching away with Ropes in their Hands to a Wood that was within Sight of the Place. I found they were not able to bear themselves n their first serious Thoughts; but knowing these would wickly bring them to a better Frame of Mind, I gave hem into the Custody of their Friends 'till that happy Change was wrought in them.

The last that was brought to me was a young Wonan, who at the first Sight of my short Face sell into a immoderate Fit of Laughter, and was forced to hold the sides all the while her Mother was speaking to me. Upon this I interrupted the old Lady, and taking her Daughter by the Hand, Madam, said I, be pleased to etire into my Closet, while your Mother tells me your Case. I then put her into the Mouth of the Cave, when the Mother, after having begg'd Pardon for the Sirl's Rudeness, told me, that she often treated her ather and the gravest of her Relations in the same namer; that she would sit giggling and laughing with er Companions from one End of a Tragedy to the other; ay, that she would sometimes burst out in the Middle sermon, and set the whole Congregation a staring

at

at her. The Mother was going on, when the young Lady came out of the Cave to us with a composed Countenance, and a low Curtie. She was a Girl of fuch exuberant Mirth, that her Visit to Trophonius only reduced her to a more than ordinary Decency of Behaviour, and made a very pretty Prude of her. After having performed innumerable Cures, I looked about me with great Satisfaction, and faw all my Patients walking by themselves in a very pensive and amuling Posture, so that the whole Place feem'd covered with Philosophers. I was at length resolv'd to go into the Cave my felf, and fee what it was that had produced fuch wonderful Effects upon the Company; but as I was stooping at the Entrance, the Door being something low, I gave fuch a Nodd in my Chair, that I awaked. After having recovered my felf from my fel Startle, I was very well pleas'd at the Accident which had befallen me, as not knowing but a little Stay in the Place might have spoiled my SPECTATORS.

No. 600. Wednefday, September 29.

-Solemque suum, sua sidera norunt.

Virg.

Have always taken a particular Pleasure in examining the Opinions which Men of different Religion, different Ages, and different Countries, have entertained concerning the Immortality of the Soul, and the State of Happiness which they promise themselves another World. For whatever Prejudices and Erron human Nature lies under; we find that either Reason, or Tradition from our first Parents, has discovered all People something in these great Points which bear Analogy to Truth, and to the Doctrines opened to by divine Revelation. I was lately discoursing on the Subject with a learned Person who has been very mode conversant among the Inhabitants of the more western.

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Vol. VII

Parts of Africk. Upon his converfing with several in that Country, he tells me that their Notion of Heaven or of a future State of Happiness is this, That every thing we there wish for will immediately present itself to us. We find, fay they, our Souls are of fuch a Nature that they require Variety, and are not capable of being always delighted with the same Objects. The Supreme Being therefore, in Compliance with this Tafte of Happiness which he has planted in the Soul of Man, will raise up from Time to Time, fay they, every Gratification which is in the Humour to be pleased with. If we wish to e in Groves or Bowers, among running Streams or Falls of Water, we shall immediately find our selves in the midst of such a Scene as we defire. If we would be enertained with Mufick and the Melody of Sounds, the Confort rifes upon our Wish, and the whole Region about is filled with Harmony. In short, every Desire will e followed by Fruition, and whatever a Man's Inclinaion directs him to will be present with him. material whether the Supreme Power creates in Conbrmity to our Wishes, or whether he only produces ich a Change in our Imagination, as makes us believe urfelves conversant among those Scenes which delight . Our Happiness will be the same, whether it proed from external Objects, or from the Impressions of e Deity upon our own private Fancies. This is the ccount which I have received from my learned Friend. otwithstanding this System of Belief be in general very himerical and visionary, there is something sublime in manner of confidering the Influence of a Divine Being a Human Soul. It has also, like most other Opinions the Heathen World upon these important Points, it s, I fay, its Foundation in Truth, as it supposes the uls of good Men after this Life to be in a State of pert Happiness, that in this State there will be no barren opes, nor fruitless Wishes, and that we shall enjoy every ling we can defire. But the particular Circumstance hich I am most pleas'd with in this Scheme, and which les from a just Reflection upon human Nature, is that riety of Pleasures which it supposes the Souls of good Vol. VIII. Men

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Men will be poffessed of in another World. This I think highly probable, from the Dictates both of Reason and Revelation. The Soul confifts of many Faculties, as the Understanding, and the Will, with all the Senses both out. ward and inward; or to speak more philosophically, the Soul can exert her felf in many different Ways of Action, She can understand, will, imagine, see, and hear, love, and discourse, and apply herself to many other the like Exercises of different Kinds and Natures; but what is more to be confidered, the Soul is capable of receiving a most exquisite Pleasure and Satisfaction from the Exercise of any of these its Powers, when they are gratified with their proper Objects; fhe can be entirely hap py by the Satisfaction of the Memory, the Sight, the Hearing, or any other Mode of Perception. Every faculty is as a diffinct Taffe in the Mind, and hath Obiels accommodated to its proper Relish. Doctor Tillatin somewhere fays, that he will not presume to determine in what confifts the Happiness of the Bleft, because God Almighty is capable of making the Soul happy by Ta thousand different Ways. Besides those several Avenus to Pleasure which the Soul is endowed with in this Life; it is not impossible, according to the Opinions of many eminent Divines, but there may be new Faculties in the Souls of good Men made perfect, as well as new Senie in their glorified Bodies. This we are fure of, that then will be new Objects offer'd to all those Faculties which are essential to us.

We are likewise to take Notice that every particular Faculty is capable of being employed on a very great veriety of Objects. The Understanding, for Example, may be happy in the Contemplation of Moral, Natural, Mathematical, and other Kinds of Truth. The Memory likewise may turn itself to an infinite Multitude of Objects, especially when the Soul shall have pass'd through the Space of many Millions of Years, and shall relate with Pleasure on the Days of Eternity. Every other Faculty may be considered in the same Extent.

WE cannot question but that the Happiness of a Su will be adequate to its Nature, and that it is not endor-

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ed with any Faculties which are to lie useless and unem ploy'd. The Happiness is to be the Happiness of the whole Man, and we may eafily conceive to ourselves the Happiness of the Soul, whilst any one of its Faculties is in the Fruition of its chief Good. The Happiness may be of a more exalted Nature in Proportion as the Faculty employ'd is fo, but as the whole Soul acts in the Exertion of any of its particular Powers, the whole Soul is happy in the Pleasure which arises from any of its particular Acts. For notwithstanding, as has been before hinted. and as it has been taken Notice of by one of the greatest modern Philosophers, we divide the Soul into several Powers and Faculties, there is no fuch Division in the Soul it felf, fince it is the whole Soul that remembers, understands, wills, or imagines. Our manner of considering the Memory, Understanding, Will, Imagination, and the like Faculties, is for the better enabling us to express our selves in such abstracted Subjects of Speculation, not that there is any such Division in the Soul itself.

SEEING then that the Soul has many different Faculties, or in other Words, many different Ways of acting; that it can be intenfely pleas'd, or made happy by all these different Faculties, or Ways of acting; that it may be endow'd with several latent Faculties, which it is not at present in a Condition to exert; that we cannot believe the Soul is endow'd with any Faculty which is of no Use to it; that whenever any one of these Faculties is transcendently pleased, the Soul is in a State of lappiness; and in the last Place considering that the lappiness of another World is to be the Happiness of he whole Man; who can question but that there is an afinite Variety in those Pleasures we are speaking of; and that this Fulness of Joy will be made up of all those leasures which the Nature of the Soul is capable of re-

iving.

We shall be the more confirmed in this Doctrine, if a observe the Nature of Variety, with Regard to the find of Man. The Soul does not care to be always in a same Bent. The Faculties relieve one another by urns, and receive an additional Pleasure from the Notice of those Objects about which they are conversant.

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REVELATION likewise very much confirms this Notion, under the different Views which it gives us of our future Happiness. In the Description of the Throne of God, it represents to us all those Objects which are able to gratify the Senses and Imagination: In very many Places it intimates to us all the Happiness which the Understanding can possibly receive in that State, whereall Things shall be revealed to us, and we shall know, even as we are known; the Raptures of Devotion, of Divine Love, the Pleasure of conversing with our Blessed Saviour, with an innumerable Host of Angels, and with the Spirits of Just Men made Perfect, are likewise revealed to us in several Parts of the Holy Writings. There are also mentioned those Hierarchies or Governments, in which the Bleft shall be ranged one above another, and in which we may be fure a great Part of our Happines will likewise consist; for it will not be there as in this World, where every one is aiming at Power and Superiority; but on the contrary, every one will find that Station the most proper for him in which he is placed, and will probably think that he could not have been fo happy in any other Station. These and many other Particular are marked in Divine Revelation, as the feveral Ingredients of our Happiness in Heaven, which all imply such a Variety of Joys and fuch a Gratification of the Soul in all its different Faculties, as I have been here mention-

Some of the Rabbins tell us, that the Cherubims are Set of Angels who know most, and the Seraphims a Set of Angels who love most. Whether this Distinction be not altogether imaginary, I shall not here examine; but it is highly probable that among the Spirits of good Men, there may be some who will be more pleased with the Employment of one Faculty than of another, and this perhaps according to those innocent and virtuous Habits or Inclinations which have here taken the deep

I might here apply this Consideration to the Spirit of wicked Men, with relation to the Pain which they stuffer in every one of their Faculties, and the respective Miteries which shall be appropriated to each Faculty is particular.

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particular. But leaving this to the Reflection of my Readers, I shall conclude, with observing how we ought to be thankful to our great Creator, and rejoice in the Being which he has bestowed upon us, for having made the Soul susceptible of Pleasure by so many different Ways. We see by what a Variety of Passages, Joy and Gladness may enter into the Thoughts of Man; how wonderfully a human Spirit is framed, to imbibe its proper Satisfactions, and taste the Goodness of its Creator. We may therefore look into our selves with Rapture and Amazement, and cannot sufficiently express our Gratitude to him, who has encompassed us with such a Profusion of Blessings, and opened in us so many Capacities of enjoying them.

THERE cannot be a stronger Argument that God has designed us for a State of suture Happiness, and for that Heaven which he has revealed to us, than that he has thus naturally qualified the Soul for it, and made it a Being capable of receiving so much Bliss. He would never have made such Faculties in vain, and have endowed us with Powers that were not to be exerted on such Objects as are suited to them. It is very manifest, by the inward Frame and Constitution of our Minds, that he has adapted them to an infinite Variety of Pleasures and Gratifications, which are not to be met with in this Life. We should therefore at all Times take Care that we do not disappoint this his gracious Purpose and Intention towards us, and make those Faculties which he formed

as so many Qualifications for Happiness and Rewards, to be the Instruments of Pain and Punishment.

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No. 601. Friday, October 1.

Ο άνθρωπος ευεργετος πεφυκώς.

Antonin. Lib. 9.

THE following Essay comes from an Hand which has entertained my Readers once before.

NOTWITHSTANDING a narrow contracted Temper be that which obtains most in the World, we must not therefore conclude this to be the genuine Characteristick of Mankind; because there are some who delight in nothing fo much as in doing good, and receive more of their Happiness at second hand, or by rebound from others, than by direct and immediate Senfation. Now tho' these Heroick Souls are but few, and to Appearance fo far advanced above the groveling Multitude, as if they were of another Order of Beings, yet in Reality their Nature is the fame, moved by the fame Springs, and endowed with all the fame effential Qualities, only cleared, refined, and cultivated. the same fluid Body in Winter and in Summer; when it stands stiffened in Ice as when it flows along in gentle Streams gladdening a thousand Fields in its Progress. 'I'is a Property of the Heart of Man to be diffusive: Its kind Wishes spread abroad over the Face of the Creation; and if there be those, as we may observe to many of them, who are all wrapt up in their own dear felves, without any visible Concern for their Species, It us suppose that their Good-nature is frozen, and by the prevailing Force of some contrary Quality, restrained in its Operations. I shall therefore endeavour to a fign some of the principal Checks upon this generos Propension of the Human Soul, which will enables to judge whether, and by what Method, this most us

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ful Principle may be unfettered, and restored to its native Freedom of Exercise.

THE first and leading Cause is an unhappy Complexion of Body. The Heathens, ignorant of the true Source of Moral Evil, generally charged it on the Obliquity of Matter, which, being eternal and independent, was incapable of Change in any of its Properties. even by the Almighty Mind, who, when He came to fashion it into a World of Beings, must take it as he found it. This Notion, as most others of theirs, is a Composition of Truth and Error. That Matter is eternal, that from the first Union of a Soul to it, it perverted its Inclinations, and that the ill Influence it hath upon the Mind is not to be corrected by God himself, are all very great Errors, occasioned by a Truth as evident, that the Capacities and Dispositions of the Soul depend, to a great Degree, on the bodily Temper. As there are some Fools, others are Knaves, by Conflitution; and particularly, it may be faid of many, that they are born with an illiberal Cast of Mind; the Matter that composes them is tenacious as Birdlime, and a kind of Cramp draws their Hands and their Hearts together, that they never care to open them unless to grasp at more. 'Tis a melancholy Lot this; but attended with one Advantage above theirs, to whom it would be as painful to forbear good Offices, as it is to theie Men to perform them; that whereas Persons naturally Beneficent often mistake Instinct for Virtue, by reason of the Difficulty of distinguishing when one rules them and when the other, Men of the opposite Character may be more certain of the Motive that predominates in every Action. If they cannot confer a Benefit with that Ease and Frankness which are necesfary to give it a Grace in the Eye of the World, in requital, the real Merit of what they do is inhanc'd by the Opposition they furmount in doing it. The Strength of their Virtue is seen in rising against the Weight of Nature, and every time they have the Resolution to lischarge their Duty, they make a Sacrifice of Inclinaion to Conscience, which is always too grateful to let ts Followers go without fuitable Marks of its Appro-H 4 bation.

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bation. Perhaps the entire Cure of this ill Quality is no more possible, than of some Distempers that descend by Inheritance. However, a great deal may be done by a Course of Beneficence obstinately persisted in: this, if any thing, being a likely way of establishing moral Habit, which shall be somewhat of a Counter. poife to the Force of Mechanism. Only it must be remembred, that we do not intermit, upon any Pretence whatfoever, the Custom of doing Good, in regard if there be the least Cessation. Nature will watch the Opportunity to return, and in a short time to recover the Ground it was fo long in quitting: For there is this Difference between mental Habits, and fuch a have their Foundation in the Body; that these last are in their Nature more forcible and violent, and, to gain upon us, need only not to be opposed; whereas the former must be continually reinforced with fresh Supplies, or they will languish and die away. And this fuggests the Reason why good Habits, in general, require longer time for their Settlement than bad; and vet are fooner displaced; the Reason is, that vicious Habits (as Drunkenness for Instance) produce a Change in the Body, which the others not doing must be maintained the same way they are acquired, by the men Dint of Industry, Resolution, and Vigilance.

Thing which suspends the Operati-ANOTHER ons of Benevolence, is the Love of the World; proceeding from a false Notion Men have taken up, that an abundance of the World is an effential Ingredient into the Happiness of Life. Worldly Things are d fuch a Quality as to lessen upon dividing, so that the more Partners there are, the less must fall to every Man's private Share. The Confequence of this is, that they look upon one another with an evil Eye, each image ning all the rest to be embarked in an Interest, that cannot take Place but to his Prejudice. Hence at those eager Competitions for Wealth or Power; hence one Man's Success becomes another's Disappointment; and, like Pretenders to the same Mistress, they can sedom have common Charity for their Rivals. Not the they are naturally disposed to quarrel and fall out, is

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'tis natural for a Man to prefer himself to all others, and to secure his own Interest first. If that which Men esteem their Happiness were like the Light, the same sufficient and unconfined Good, whether Ten Thousand enjoy the Benesit of it, or but One, we should see Mens Good-will and kind Endeavours, would be as universal.

Homo qui Erranti comiter monstrat Viam, Quasi Lumen de suo Lumine accendat facit, Nibilominus ipsi luceat, cum illi accenderit.

But, unluckily, Mankind agree in making Choice of Objects, which inevitably engage them in perpetual Differences. Learn therefore, like a wife Man, the true Estimate of Things. Desire not more of the World than is necessary to accommodate you in passing through it; look upon every Thing beyond, not as useless only, but burthensome. Place not your Quiet in Things which you cannot have without putting others beside them. and thereby making them your Enemies; and which. when attained, will give you more Trouble to keep, than Satisfaction in the Enjoyment. Virtue is a Good of a nobler kind; it grows by Communication, and fo little refembles earthly Riches, that the more Hands it is lodged in, the greater is every Man's particular Stock. So, by propagating and mingling their Fires, not only all the Lights of a Branch together cast a more extenfive Brightness, but each fingle Light burns with a stronger Flame. And lastly, take this along with you, that if Wealth be an Instrument of Pleasure, the greatest Pleasure it can put into your Power, is that of doing Good. 'Tis worth confidering, that the Organs of Sense act within a narrow Compass, and the Appetites will con fay they have enough: Which of the two therefore is the happier Man? He, who confining all his Reand to the Gratification of his own Appetites, is capable but of short Fits of Pleasure? Or the Man, who recconing himself a Sharer in the Satisfactions of others, specially those which come to them by his Means, enuges the Sphere of his Happiness? THE

THE last Enemy to Benevolence I shall mention is Uneafiness of any Kind. A guilty, or a discontented Mind, a Mind ruffled by ill Fortune, disconcerted by its own Passions, sowered by Neglect, or fretting at Disappointments, hath not Leisure to attend to the Ne. cessity or Reasonableness of a Kindness desired, nor a Tafte for those Pleasures which wait on Beneficence, which demand a calm and unpolluted Heart to relife them. The most miserable of all Beings is the most envious; as, on the other Hand, the most communicative is the happiest. And if you are in fearch of the Seat of perfect Love and Friendship, you will not find it till you come to the Region of the Blessed, where Happiness, like a refreshing Stream flows from Heart to Heart in an endless Circulation, and is preserved sweet and untainted by the Motion. 'Tis old Advice, if you have a Favour to request of any one, to observe the softest Times of Address, when the Soul, in a Flush of good Humour, takes a Pleasure to shew itself pleased. Persons conscious of their own Integrity, fatisfied with themselves and their Condition, and full of Confidence in a Supreme Being, and the Hope of Immortality, furvey all about them with a Flow of Good-will. As Trees which like their Soil, they shoot out in Expressions of Kindness, and bend beneath their own precious Load, to the Hand of the Gatherer. Now if the Mind be not thus easy, 'in an infallible Sign that it is not in its natural State: Place the Mind in its right Posture, it will immediately discover its innate Propension to Beneficence.

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Juv.

THE following Letter comes from a Gentleman, who, I find, is very diligent in making his Obfervations, which I think too material not to be communicated to the Publick.

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Norder to execute the Office of Love Casuist to Great Britain, with which I take myself to be invested by your Paper of September 8, I shall make some further Observations upon the two Sexes in ge

'neral, beginning with that which always ought to have the upper Hand. After having observed with much Curiosity the Accomplishments which are apt

to captivate female Hearts, I find that there is no Person so irresistible as one who is a Man of Im-

one who makes himself talked of, tho' it be for the particular Cock of his Hat, or for prating aloud in the

' particular Cock of his Hat, or for prating aloud in the Boxes at a Play, is in a fair way of being a Favourite.

'I have known a young Fellow make his Fortune by 'knocking down a Constable; and may venture to say, tho' it may seem a Paradox, that many a Fair One has

died by a Duel in which both the Combatants have

' furvived.

'ABOUT three Winters ago I took Notice of a young Lady at the Theatre, who conceived a Passion for a notorious Rake, that headed a Party of Catcalls; and am credibly informed, that the Emperor of the Mobocks married a rich Widow within three Weeks after having rendered himself formidable in the Cities of London and Westminster. Scowring and breaking of Windows having done frequent Execution

Monday

upon the Sex; but there is no Set of these Male Charmers who make their way more fuccessfully, than those who have gained themselves a Name for Intrigue, and have ruined the greatest Number of Reputations. . There is a strange Curiosity in the semale World to be acquainted with the dear Man who has been loved by

others, and to know what it is that makes him fo a. greeable. His Reputation does more than half his Every one that is ambitious of being a Wo. Bufinefs. " man of Fashion, looks out for Opportunities of being

in his Company; fo that to use the old Proverb,

When his Name is up he may lye a-bed.

' I was very fenfible of the great Advantage of being a Man of Importance upon these Occasions on the Day of the King's Entry, when I was seated in a Balcony behind a Cluster of very pretty Country Ladies, who had one of these showy Gentlemen in the midst of them. The first Trick I caught him at was bowing to feveral Persons of Quality whom he did not know, onay, he had the Impudence to hem at a Blue Garter

" who had a finer Equipage than ordinary, and seemed a little concerned at the impertinent Huzzas of the " Mob, that hindered his Friend from taking Notice of

him. There was indeed one who pulled off his Hat to him, and upon the Ladies asking who it was, he

o told them it was a Foreign Minister that he had been

· very merry with the Night before; whereas in Truth,

it was the City Common Hunt.

' HE was never at a Loss when he was asked any Person's Name, tho' he seldom knew any one under a Peer. He found Dukes and Earls among the Aldermen, very good-natured Fellows among the Privycounsellors, with two or three agreeable old Rakes a-

" mong the Bishops and Judges.

' In short, I collected from his whole Discourse, that he was acquainted with every Body, and knew ono Body. At the same Time, I am mistaken if hedd onot that Day make more Advances in the Affections of his Mistress, who sat near him, than he could have

done in half a Year's Courtship.

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No. 602. The SPECTATOR.

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· OVID has finely touched this Method of making Love, which I shall here give my Reader in Mr. Dryden's Translation.

Page the Eleventh.

Thus Love in Theatres did first improve, And Theatres are still the Scenes of Love: Nor Shun the Chariots, and the Coursers Race; The Circus is no inconvenient Place. Nor Need is there of talking on the Hand, Nor Nods nor Signs, which Lovers understand; But boldly next the Fair your Seat provide. Close as you can to hers, and Side by Side; Pleas'd or unpleas'd, no Matter; crowding fit; For so the Laws of publick Shows permit. Then find Occasion to begin Discourse, Enquire whose Chariot this, and whose that Horse; To what soever Side she is inclin'd, Suit all your Inclinations to ber Mind; Like what she likes, from thence your Court begin, And whom she favours, wish that he may win.

Again, Page the Sixteenth.

O when will come the Day, by Heav'n design'd, When thou, the best and fairest of Mankind, Drawn by white Horses, shalt in Triumph ride, With conquer'd Slaves attending on thy Side; Slaves, that no longer can be safe in Flight, O glorious Object! O surprising Sight! O Day of publick Joy, too good to end in Night! On such a Day, if thou, and next to thee Some Beauty fits, the Spectacle to fee; If she enquire the Names of conquer'd Kings; Of Mountains, Rivers, and their bidden Springs; Answer to all thou know'st; and, if Need be, Of Things unknown seem to speak knowingly: This is Euphrates, crown'd with Reeds; and there flows the swift Tigris, with his Sea green Hair. Invent

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170 The SPECTATOR. No. 603, Invent new Names of Things unknown before; Call this Armenia, that the Caspian Shore:

Call this a Mede, and that a Parthian Youth; Talk probably; no matter for the Truth.

No. 603. Wednesday, October 6.

Ducite ab Urbe Domum; me a Carmina, ducite Daphnim.
Virg.

THE following Copy of Verses comes from one of my Correspondents, and has something in it so original, that I do not much doubt but it will divert my Readers.

I

MY Time, O ye Muses, was happily spent,
When Phebe went with me wherever I went;
Ten thousand sweet Pleasures I selt in my Breast,
Sure never fond Shepherd like Colin was blest!
But now she is gone, and has lest me behind,
What a marvellous Change on a sudden I find:
When Things were as sine as could possibly be,
I thought 'twas the Spring; but alas! it was she.

II

With such a Companion, to tend a few Sheep,
To rise up and play, or to be down and sleep:
I was so good humour'd, so chearful and gay,
My Heart was as light as a Feather all Day.
But now I so cross and so peewish am grown;
So strangely uneasy as never was known.
My fair one is gone, and my Joys are all drown'd,
And my Heart—I am sure it weighs more than a found.

III.

The Fountain that wont to run swiftly along, And dance to soft Murmurs the Pebbles among.

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My Dog Come wag And Pheb Come bithe But now, Cry, Sirra And Pilgi Be as dull

When we How fair of What a low The Corn for But now flow They none of Twas nough Made fo ma

Sweet M. The Lark,

No. 603. The SPECTATOR.

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Thou know'st, little Cupid, if Phebe was there, 'Iwas Pleasure to look at, 'twas Musick to hear: But now she is absent, I walk by its Side, And still as it murmurs do nothing but chide, Must you be so chearful, while I go in Pain? Peace there with your Bubbling, and hear me complain.

IV

When my Lambkins around me would oftentimes play, And when Phebe and I were as joyful as they, How pleasant their Sporting, how happy the Time, When Spring, Love and Beauty were all in their Prime? But now in their Frolicks when by me they pass, I sting at their Fleeces an Handful of Grass:

Be still then, I cry, for it makes me quite mad, To see you so merry, while I am so sad.

V

My Dog I was ever well pleased to see
Come wagging his Tail to my fair one and me;
And Phebe was pleas'd too, and to my Dog said,
Come bither, poor Fellow; and patted his Head.
But now, when he's fawning, I with a sour Look
Cry, Sirrab; and give him a Blow with my Crook;
And Illgive him another; for why should not Tray
Be as dull as his Master, when Phebe's away?

VI.

When walking with Phebe, what Sights have I feen? How fair was the Flower, how fresh was the Green? What a lovely Appearance the Trees and the Shade, The Corn-field, and Hedges, and eviry Thing made? But now she has left me, tho' all are still there, They none of 'em now so delightful appear: 'Twas nought but the Magick, I find, of her Eyes, Made so many beautiful Prospects arise.

VII.

Sweet Musick went with us both all the Wood thro; The Lark, Linnet, Thrustle, and Nightingale too;

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Winds

Winds o'er us whisper'd, Flocks by us did bleat, And chirp went the Grasshopper under our Feet. But now she is absent, tho' still they sing on, The Woods are but lonely, the Melody's gone: Her Voice in the Consort, as now I have found, Gave ev'ry Thing else its agreeable Sound.

VIII.

Rose, what is become of thy delicate Hue?
And where is the Violet's beautiful Blue?
Does ought of its Sweetness the Blossom beguile,
That Meadow, those Deasses, why do they not smile?
Ab! Rivals, I see what it was that you drest,
And made yourselves fine for; a Place in her Breast;
You put on your Colours to pleasure her Eye,
To be pluckt by her Hand, on her Bosom to die.

IX

How slowly Time creeps, till my Phebe return?
While amidst the soft Zephyr's cool breezes I burn;
Methinks if I knew whereabouts he would tread,
I could breathe on his Wings, and twould melt down the Lead.
Fly swiftly ye Minutes, bring hither my Dear,
And rest so much longer for't when she is here.
Ab Colin! old Time is full of Delay,
Nor will budge one Foot faster for all thou canst say.

X.

Will no pitying Power that hears me complain, Or cure my Disquiet, or soften my Pain? To be cur'd, thou must, Colin, thy Passion remove; But what Swain is so silly to live without Love? No, Deity, bid the dear Nymph to return, For ne'er was poor Shepherd so sadly forlorn. Ab! What shall I do? I shall die with Despair; Take heed, all ye Swains, bow ye love one so fair.

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No. 604. Friday, October 8.

THE Desire of knowing suture Events, is one of the strongest Inclinations in the Mind of Man. Indeed an Ability of foreseeing probable Accidents is what, in the Language of Men, is called Wisdom and Prudence: But, not satisfied with the Light that Reason holds out, Mankind hath endeavoured to penetrate more compendiously into Futurity. Magick, Oracles, Omens, lucky Hours, and the various Arts of Supersition, owe their Rise to this powerful Cause. As this Principle is sounded in Self-Love, every Man is sure to be solicitous in the first Place about his own Fortune, the Course of his Life, and the Time and Manner of his Death.

IF we confider that we are free Agents, we shall discover the Absurdity of such Enquiries. One of our Actions, which we might have performed or neglected, is the Cause of another that succeeds it, and so the whole Chain of Life is link'd together. Pain, Poverty, or Infamy, are the natural Product of vicious and imprudent Acts; as the contrary Blessings are of good ones; fo that we cannot suppose our Lot to be determined without Impiety. A great Enhancement of Pleasure arises from its being unexpected; and Pain is doubled by being foreseen. Upon all these, and seteral other Accounts, we ought to rest satisfied in this Portion bestowed on us; to adore the Hand that hath itted every Thing to our Nature, and hath not more lisplay'd his Goodness in our Knowledge than in our gnorance.

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I turn'd n filling his was no Ro with Fear Famine ar THIS

No. 60.

IT is not unworthy Observation, that superstitions Enquiries into future Events prevail more or less, in Proportion to the Improvements of liberal Arts and use. ful Knowledge in the several Parts of the World. Ac. cordingly we find, that magical Incantations remain in Lapland, in the more remote Parts of Scotland they have their fecond Sight, and feveral of our own Coun. trymen see abundance of Fairies. In Afia this Credu. lity is strong; and the greatest Part of refined Learning there consists in the Knowledge of Amulets, Talismans,

occult Numbers, and the like.

WHEN I was at Grand Cairo, I fell into the Acquaintance of a good natured Mussulman, who promised me many good Offices, which he defigned to do me when he became the Prime Minister, which was a Fortune bestowed on his Imagination by a Doctor very deep in the curious Sciences. At his repeated Sollicitations I went to learn my Destiny of this was derful Sage. For a small Sum I had his Promise, ba was required to wait in a dark Apartment till he had run thro' the preparatory Ceremonies. Having a from Propensity, even then, to Dreaming. I took a Na upon the Sofa where I was placed, and had the following Vision, the Particulars whereof I picked up the other

Day among my Papers.

I found myself in an unbounded Plain, where me thought the whole World, in feveral Habits and with different Tongues was affembled. The Multitude glided swiftly along, and I found in myself a strong Inclination to mingle in the Train. My Eyes quick ly fingled out some of the most splendid Figures. & veral in rich Caftans and glittering Turbans build through the Throng, and trampled over the Boom of those they threw down; till to my great Surpris I found that the great Pace they went only halind them to a Scaffold or a Bow-string. Many beautiful Damfels on the other Side moved forward with gra Gaiety; fome danced till they fell all along; and other painted their Faces till they lost their Noies. A Tribe of Creatures with bufy Looks falling into a !! of Laughter at the Misfortunes of the unhappy Ladia Lturis

for fome I Mind, I had fince While I w kind, I w turns from thor fo befo ed directly Bulwarks, of all Char Dignity, a me, was to Enemies. I have a Mar proach me feen or hear otherwise: icularly po the Satyr w hem. My Dozen F which I ha ed often at erted with erwards be Marriage w rose in my by Anxietic ill fleeting ty; when t me, by t ult going to N. B. Ih

my Life

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I turn'd my Eyes upon them. They were each of them filling his Pockets with Gold and Jewels, and when there was no Room left for more, these Wretches looking round with Fear and Horror, pined away before my Face with Famine and Discontent.

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THIS Prospect of human Misery struck me dumb for some Miles. Then it was that, to disburthen my Mind, I took Pen and Ink, and did every Thing that had fince happen'd under my Office of Spectator. While I was employing myself for the Good of Mankind, I was furpriz'd to meet with very unfuitable Returns from my Fellow-Creatures. Never was poor Author so beset with Pamphleteers, who sometimes marched directly against me, but often shot at me from strong Bulwarks, or role up fuddenly in Ambush. They were of all Characters and Capacities, some with Ensigns of Dignity, and others in Liveries; but what most surprized me, was to fee two or three in black Gowns among my Enemies. It was no small Trouble to me, sometimes to have a Man come up to me with an angry Face, and reproach me for having lampooned him, when I had never feen or heard of him in my Life. With the Ladies it was otherwise: Many became my Enemies for not being paricularly pointed out; as there were others who refented the Satyr which they imagined I had directed against hem. My great Comfort was in the Company of half Dozen Friends, who, I found fince, were the Club which I have so often mentioned in my Papers. I laughdoften at Sir Roger in my Sleep, and was the more dierted with Will. Honeycomb's Gallantries, (when we aferwards became acquainted) because I had foreseen his darriage with a Farmer's Daughter. The Regret which rose in my Mind upon the Death of my Companions, by Anxieties for the Publick, and the many Calamities ill fleeting before my Eyes, made me repent my Curioty; when the Magician entered the Room, and awakenme, by telling me (when it was too late) that he was all going to begin.

N. B. I have only deliver'd the Prophecy of that Part my Life which is past, it being inconvenient to diage the second Part 'till a more proper Opportunity.

Monday,

No. 605. Monday, October 11.

Exuerint sylvestrem animum, cultuque frequenti In quascunque voces artes, haud tarda sequentur. Viz.

Having perused the following Letter, and finding it to run upon the Subject of Love, I referred it to the learned Casuist, whom I have retained in my Service for Speculations of that Kind. Here turn'd it to me the next Morning with his Report annested to it, with both of which I shall here present my Reader.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

FINDING that you have entertained an useful Person in your Service in Quality of Love-Casust, I apply myself to you, under a very great Difficulty, that hath for some Months perplexed me. I have a Coupled humble Servants, one of which I have no Aversion use the other I think of very kindly. The first hath its Reputation of a Man of good Sense, and is one of those People that your Sex are apt to value. My Spart is reckoned a Coxcomb among the Men, but is a second to the Ladies. If I marry the Man of Worth as they call him, I shall oblige my Parents and improve

felf Happiness, althor not a Jointure. Now I would ask you whether I should consent to lead my 15 with a Man that I have only no Objection to, orwing

my Fortune; but with my dear Beau I promile me

him against whom all Objections to me appear from

lous. I am determined to follow the Cafuift's Advice

No. 60 and I da Thing a

P. S. " man is t and is al fancies h Lap-Dog when he an Hour always in As I lo he Parents derations t comply Ind at the offible but . im, who i fe the old ove will co THE onl ainst the G omplaifanc turn. No ance, that i it, are ver determine. easure or I e doth not od Sense le eas'd, than ady to han

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No. 605. The SPECTATOR. 177 and I dare fay he will not put me upon fo ferious a Thing as Matrimony, contrary to my Inclination.

I am, &c.

Fanny Fickle.

P. S. 'I forgot to tell you, that the pretty Gentleman is the most complaisant Creature in the World, and is always of my Mind; but the other, forsooth, fancies he hath as much Wit as myself, slights my Lap-Dog, and hath the Insolence to contradict me when he thinks I am not in the Right. About half an Hour ago, he maintained to my Face, that a Patch

always implies a Pimple.

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As I look upon it to be my Duty rather to fide with he Parents than the Daughter, I shall propose some Conderations to my gentle Querist, which may incline her to comply with those, under whose Direction she is: and at the same Time, convince her, that it is not impossible but she may, in Time, have a true Affection for im, who is at present, indifferent to her: Or, to see the old Family Maxim, that, If she marries first, ove will come after.

THE only Objection that she seems to infinuate ainft the Gentleman proposed to her, is his want of omplaisance, which I perceive, she is very willing to turn. Now, I can discover from this very Circumance, that she and her Lover, whatever they may think it, are very good Friends in their Hearts. It is difficult determine, whether Love delights more in giving easure or Pain. Let Miss Fickle ask her own Heart, if e doth not take a secret Pride in making this Man of od Sense look very filly. Hath she ever been better eas'd, than when her Behaviour hath made her Lover ady to hang himself? Or doth she ever rejoice more, an when she thinks she hath driven him to the very ink of a purling Stream? Let her confider, at the same me, that it is not impossible but her Lover may have discoverdiscovered her Tricks, and had a Mind to give her a good as she brings. I remember a handsome young Bas. gage that treated a hopeful Greek of my Acquaintance just come from Oxford, as if he had been a Barbarian The first Week, after she had fixed him, she took a Pind of Snuff out of his Rival's Box, and apparently touched the Enemy's little Finger. She became a profest Enemy to the Arts and Sciences, and scarce ever wrote a Letter to him without wilfully mispelling his Name. The young Scholar, to be even with her, railed at Coquetting foon as he had got the Word; and did not want Parts n turn into Ridicule her Men of Wit and Pleasure of the Town. After having irritated one another for the Space of five Months, the made an Affignation with him four score Miles from London. But as he was very well at quainted with her Pranks, he took a Journey the quit contrary Way. Accordingly they met, quarrell'd, and in a few Days were married. Their former Hostilia are now the Subject of their Mirth, being content at profent with that Part of Love only, which bestows Plan fure.

Women, who have been married some Time, me having it in their Heads to draw after them a numerous Train of Followers, find their Satisfaction in the Possifion of one Man's Heart. I know very well, that Ladis in their Bloom defire to be excused in this Particular. It when Time hath worn out their natural Vanity at taught them Discretion, their Fondness settles on its proper Object. And it is probably for this Reason, the among Husbands, you will find more that are sould women beyond their Prime, than of those that are so tually in the Insolence of Beauty. My Reader will apply the same Observation to the other Sex.

I need not infift upon the Necessity of their pursue one common Interest, and their united Care, for the Children; but shall only observe, by the Way, that me ried Persons are both more warm in their Love, and me hearty in their Hatred, than any others whatsoes Mutual Favours and Obligations, which may be suppose to be greater here than in any other State, naturally be

No. 605 n intense ontrary, ave a part ey think ave deserv BESIDES ten many e fometim To this v nstant Co d Benevol , which I ou may be Expression his gives a eles Flatte inciple of as, who ar tch the Ai l into the f ne have ca atures of N e another. , that the l of her ov if not exp ir self to co n Judgmen that is the WE have a he History leave it wi

HIS great y, fell in gdom, with schefter, as His Im e so great,

felf.

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n intense Affection in generous Minds. As, on the ontrary, Persons who have bestowed such Favours, are a particular Bitterness in their Resentments, when sey think themselves ill treated by those of whom they are deserved so much.

BESIDES, Miss Fickle may consider, that as there are ten many Faults concealed before Marriage, so there

e sometimes many Virtues unobserved.

To this we may add the great Efficacy of Custom, and nstant Conversation, to produce a medual Friendship d Benevolence in two Persons. It is a nice Reflecti-, which I have heard a Friend of mine make, that ou may be fure a Woman loves a Man when she uses Expressions, tells his Stories, or imitates his Manner. his gives a secret Delight; for Imitation is a kind of less Flattery, and mightily favours the powerful inciple of Self-love. It is certain, that married Peras, who are possest with a mutual Esteem, not only tch the Air and way of Talk from one another, but linto the same Traces of thinking and liking. Nay, ne have carried the Remark so far as to affert, that the atures of Man and Wife grow, in Time, to resemble e another. Let my fair Correspondent therefore confi-, that the Gentleman recommended will have a good l of her own Face in two or three Years; which she If not expect from the Beau, who is too full of his r self to copy after another. And I dare appeal to her n Judgment, if that Person will not be the handsom. that is the most like herself.

We have a remarkable Instance to our present Purpose he History of King Edgar, which I shall here relate, leave it with my fair Correspondent to be applied to

felf.

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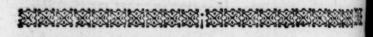
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e fuppole rally beg This great Monarch, who is so famous in British y, sell in Love, as he made his Progress thro' his gdom, with a certain Duke's Daughter who lived near schesser, and was the most celebrated Beauty of the His Importunities and the Violence of his Passion to great, that the Mother of the young Lady proed him to bring her Daughter to his Bed the next ht, though in her Heart she abhorred so infamous an

Office.

Office. It was no fooner dark than she conveyed into his Room a young Maid of no disagreeable Figure, who was one of her Attendants, and did not want Address to improve the Opportunity for the Advancement of her Fortune. She made so good Use of her Time, that when she offered to rise a little before Day, the King could by no means think of parting with her. So that finding herself under a Necessity of discovering who she was, she did it in so handsome a manner that his Majesty was exceeding gracious to her, and took her ever after under his Protection: Insomuch that our Chronicles tell us he carried her along with him, made her his first Minister of State, and continued true to her alone, 'till his Marriage with the beautiful Elfrida.



No. 606. Wednesday, October 13.

-Longum cantu folata laborem Arguto Conjux percurrit pectine Telas.

Virg-

Mr. SPECTATOR,

HAVE a couple of Nieces under my Direction, who so often run gadding abroad, that I don't know where to have them. Their Dress, their Tea and their Visits take up all their Time, and they go to Bed as tired with doing nothing, as I am after quilting a whole Under-petticoat. The only Time they are not idle, is while they read your Spectators; which being dedicated to the Interests Virtue, I defire you to recommend the long neglected Art of Needle-work. Those Hours which in this Against the Art of Needle-work. Those Hours which in this Against the thrown away in Dress, Play, Visits, and the like were employ'd, in my Time, in writing out Receipts or working Beds, Chairs, and Hangings for the Family

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Family. For my Part I have ply'd my Needle thefe Fifty Years, and by my good Will would never have it out of my Hand. It grieves my Heart to fee a couple of proud idle Flirts fipping their Tea, for a whole Afternoon, in a Room hung round with the Industry of their Great Grandmother. Pray, Sir, take the laudable Mystery of Embroidery into your serious Confideration, and as you have a great deal of the Virtue of the last Age in you, continue your Endeavours to reform the present.

I am. &c.

IF

In Obedience to the Commands of my venerable Correspondent, I have duly weigh'd this important Subect, and promise myself, from the Argument here laid lown, that all the fine Ladies of England will be ready, s foon as their Mourning is over, to appear covered with the Work of their own Hands.

WHAT a delightful Entertainment must it be to the air Sex, whom their native Modesty, and the Tenderess of Men towards them, exempts from publick Business. pass their Hours in imitating Fruits and Flowers, and aniplanting all the Beauties of Nature into their own refs, or raising a new Creation in their Closets and partments. How pleasing is the Amusement of alking among the Shades and Groves planted by themves, in surveying Heroes slain by their Needle, or tle Cupids which they have brought into the World thout Pain!

This is, methinks, the most proper way wherein a dy can shew a fine Genius, and I cannot forbear wish-, that feveral Writers of that Sex had chosen to apply mselves rather to Tapestry than Rhime. Your Pasto-Poeteffes may vent their Fancy in Rural Landskip, place despairing Shepherds under filken Willows, or wn them in a Stream of Mohair. The Heroick Wrimay work up Battles as successful, and inflame m with Gold or stain them with Crimson. ewho have only a Turn to a Song or an Epigram, put many valuable Stitches into a Purie, and crowd ouland Graces into a Pair of Garters. OL. VIII.

IF I may, without breach of good Manners, imagine that any pretty Creature is void of Genius, and would perform her Part herein but very awkwardly, I must nevertheless infist upon her working, if it be only to keep

her out of Harm's way.

ANOTHER Argument for busying good Women in Works of Fancy, is, because it takes them off from Scandal, the usual Attendant of Tea-Tables, and all other unactive Scenes of Life. While they are forming their Birds and Beasts, their Neighbours will be allowed to be the Fathers of their own Children: And Whig and Tory will be seldom mentioned, where the great Dispute is, whether Blue or Red is the more proper Colour. How much greater Glory would Sophronia do the General, if she would chuse rather to work the Battle of Blenbeim in Tapestry, than signalize herself with so much Vehemence against those who are Frenchmen in their Hearts.

A Third Reason that I shall mention, is the Profit that is brought to the Family where these pretty Arts are encouraged. It is manifest that this way of Life not only keeps fair Ladies from running out into Expences, but is at the same Time an actual Improvement. How memorable would that Matron be, who should have it subscribed upon her Monument, 'That she wrought out the whole Bible in Tapestry, and died in a good old Age,

after having covered three hundred Yards of Wallin

* the Mansion-House.

THE Premises being confider'd, I humbly submit the sollowing Proposals to all Mothers in Great Britain.

I. THAT no young Virgin whatsoever be allow'd meceive the Addresses of her first Lover, but in a Suited her own Embroidering.

II. THAT before every fresh Servant, she be obligi

to appear with a new Stomacher at the leaft.

III. THAT no one be actually married, till she had the Child-bed Pillows, &c. ready stitch'd, as likewise the Mantle for the Boy quite sinished.

THESE Laws, if I mistake not, would effectually restore the decay'd Art of Needlework, and make the Virginian of the Needlework, and make the virginian of the Needlework, and make the Needlework, and t

Virgins their Bo THE dies in the will have a Wido cy, receifor her coordingly Ulaffes a Winding The Stor fufficiently give it to relate it.

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THERE is a memorable Custom of the Grecian Ladies in this Particular, preserv'd in Homer, which I hope will have a very good Effect with my Countrywomen. A Widow in ancient Times could not, without Indecency, receive a second Husband, till she had woven a Shrowd for her deceased Lord, or the next of Kin to him. Accordingly the chaste Penelope having, as she thought, lost Ulyses at Sea, she employed her Time in preparing a Winding-sheet for Laertes, the Father of her Husband. The Story of her Web being very famous, and yet not sufficiently known in its several Circumstances, I shall give it to my Reader, as Homer makes one of her Wooers relate it.

Sweet Hope she gave to every Youth apart, With well-taught Looks, and a deceitful Heart: A Web she wove of many a stender Twine, Of curious Texture, and perplext Design; My Youths, she cry'd, my Lord but newly dead, Forbear a while to court my widow'd Bed, Till I bave wov'n, as folemn Vows require, This Web, a Shrowd for poor Ulysses' Sire. His Limbs, when Fate the Hero's Soul demands, Shall claim this Labour of his Daughter's Hands: Lest all the Dames of Greece my Name despise, While the great King without a Covering lies. Thus she. Nor did my Friends mistrust the Guile. All Day she sped the long laborious Toil: But when the burning Lamps supply'd the Sun, Each Night unravell'd what the Day begun. Ibree live-long Summers did the Fraud prevail ; be Fourth her Maidens told the amazing Tale. bese Eyes beheld, as close I took my Stand, be backward Labours of her faithless Hand: Till watch'd at length, and press'd on every Side, ter Task she ended, and commenc'd a Bride.

1 2

Friday,

effectually

Virg

No. 607. Friday, October 15.

Dicite Io Pæan, & Io bis dicite Pæan: Decidit in casses præda petita meos.

Ovid.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

HAVING in your Paper of Monday last published my report on the Case of Mrs. Fanny Fichk, wherein I have taken Notice, that Loves comes after Marriage; I hope your Readers are satisfied of

this Truth, that as Love generally produces Matrimony, fo it often happens that Matrimony produces Love.

'IT perhaps requires more Virtues to make a good 'Husband or Wife, than what go to the finishing any

the most shining Character whatsoever.

DISCRETION feems absolutely necessary, and accordingly we find that the best Husbands have been

most famous for their Wisdom. Homer, who hath drawn a perfect Pattern of a prudent Man, to makeit

the more complete, hath celebrated him for the just Returns of Fidelity and Truth to his Penelope; info

much that he refused the Carestes of a Goddess for her

Sake, and to use the Expression of the best of Pagan

Authors, vetulam fuam prætulit Immortalitati, his old Woman was dearer to him than Immortality.

VIRTUE is the next necessary Qualification for

this domestick Character, as it naturally produces Confiancy and mutual Esteem. Thus Brutus and Portion

were more remarkable for Virtue and Affection than

any others of the Age in which they lived.

GOOD-NATURE is a third necessary Ingredient

in the Marriage-State, without which it would nevitably fowre upon a thousand Occasions. When Great

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tracts the Admiration and Esteem of all who behold it.
Thus Caesar, not more remarkable for his Fortune and
Valour than for his Humanity, stole into the Hearts of
the Roman People, when breaking through the Custom, he pronounced an Oration at the Funeral of his
first and best beloved Wife.

GOOD-NATURE is insufficient, unless it be steady and uniform, and accompanied with an Evenness of Temper, which is, above all Things, to be preserved in this Friendship contracted for Life. A Man must be easy within himself, before he can be so to his other felf. Socrates and Marcus Aurelius, are Instances of Men, who, by the Strength of Philosophy, having entirely composed their Minds, and subdued their Pasfions are celebrated for good Husbands, notwithstanding the first was yoked with Xantippe, and the other with Fauftina. If the wedded Pair would but habituate themselves for the first Year to bear with one another's Faults, the Difficulty would be pretty well conquer'd. This mutual Sweetness of Temper and Complacency, was finely recommended in the Nuptial Ceremonies among the Heathens, who when they facrificed to Juno at the Solemnity, always tore out the Gall from the Entrails of the Victim, and cast it behind the Altar.

'I shall conclude this Letter with a Passage out of Dr. Plot's Natural History of Staffordshire, not only as it will serve to fill up your present Paper; but if I find myself in the Humour, may give Rise to another; I having by me an old Register, belonging to the Place

here undermentioned.

Sir Philip de Somerwile held the Manors of Whichewere, Scirescot, Ridware, Neherton, and Cowlee, all the
com. Stafford, of the Earls of Lancaster, by this memoable Service. The said Sir Philip shall find, maintain, and
whain, one Bacon Flitch, hanging in his Hall at Whichewere, ready arrayed all Times of the Year, but in Lent,
be given to every Man or Woman married, after the
ay and the Year of their Marriage be past, in Form
llowing.

I 3

WHEN

WHENSOEVER that any one such before named will come to enquire for the Bacon, in their own Person, they shall come to the Bailiff, or to the Porter of the Lerdship of Whichenovre, and shall say to him in the manner as ensueth;

BAYLIFF, or Porter, I doo you to know, that I am come for myself, to demand one Bacon Flyke hang.

ing in the Hall of the Lord of Whichenoure, after the

· Form thereunto belonging.

AFTER which Relation, the Bayliff or Porter fall affign a Day to him, upon Promise by his Faith to return. and with him to bring Twain of his Neighbours. And in the mean Time the faid Bayliff shall take with him Twain of the Freeholders of the Lordship of Whichenovn, and they three shall go to the Manor of Rudlow, belong. ing to Robert Knightleye, and there shall summon the afore. faid Knightleye, or his Bayliff, commanding him to be ready at Whichenowre the Day appointed, at Prime of Day, with his Carriage, that is to fay, a Horse and a Saddle, 1 Sack and a Pryke, for to convey the faid Bacon and Com a Journey out of the County of Stafford, at his Costages. And then the faid Bailiff shall, with the faid Freeholden, fummon all the Tenants of the faid Mannor, to be rady at the Day appointed, at Whichenoure, for to do and perform the Services which they owe to the Bacon. And at the Day affigned, all fuch as owe Services to the Bacon, shall be ready at the Gate of the Manor of Whichenoure, from the Sun-rifing to Noon, attending and awaiting for the coming of him who fetcheth the And when he is come, there shall be delivered to him and his Fellows, Chapelets; and to all those which shall be there, to do their Services due to the Bacon. And they shall lead the faid Demandant with Trump and Tabours, and other manner of Minstrels to the Hall-Door, where he shall find the Lord of Whichenours, or his Steward, ready to deliver the Bacon in this Manner.

HE shall enquire of him, which demandeth the becon, if he have brought Twain of his Neighbours with him: Which must answer, They be here ready. And this

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then the Steward shall cause these two Neighbours to swear, if the said Demandant be a wedded Man, or have been a wedded Man; and if since his Marriage one Year and a Day be past; and if he be a Freeman, or a Villain. And if his said Neighbours make Oath, that he hath for him all these three Points rehearsed; then shall the Bacon be taken down and brought to the Hall-Door, and shall there be laid upon one half Quarter of Wheat, and upon one other of Rye. And he that demandeth the Bacon shall kneel upon his Knee, and shall hold his right Hand upon a Book, which Book shall be laid upon the Bacon, and the Corn, and shall make Oath in this manner.

'Here ye, Sir, Philip de Somervile, Lord of Whichenovre, mayntener and gyver of this Baconne:
That I A fithe I Wedded B my Wife, and fithe I
had hyr in my kepying, and at my Wylle, by a
Year and a Day after our Marriage, I would not have
chaunged for none other; farer ne fowler; richer,
ne pourer; ne for none other descended of greater
Lynage; slepying ne waking, at noo tyme. And if
the seyd B were sole and I sole I would take her to
be my Wife before all the Wymen of the Worlde,
of what Condiciones soever they be: good or evylle,
as help me God and his Seyntes, and this Flesh and all
Fleshes.

AND his Neighbours shall make Oath, that they trust verily he hath faid truly. And if it be found by his Neighbours before-named that he be a Freeman, there shall be delivered to him half a Quarter of Wheat and a Cheese; and if he be a Villain, he shall have half a Quarter of Rye without Cheese. And then hall Knightleye the Lord of Rudlow be called for, to arry all these Things tofore rehearsed; and the said Corn shall be laid on one Horse and the Bacon above it: nd he to whom the Bacon appertaineth shall ascend pon his Horse, and shall take the Cheese before him he have a Horse. And if he have none, the Lord of bichenoure shall cause him to have one Horse and addle, to such time as he be past his Lordship : and hall they depart the Manor of Whichenoure with the orn and the Bacon, tofore him that hath won it,

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WHENSOEVER that any one such before named will come to enquire for the Bacon, in their own Person, they shall come to the Bailiff, or to the Porter of the Lord. Ship of Whichenovre, and shall say to him in the manner as ensueth;

BAYLIFF, or Porter, I doo you to know, that !

am come for myself, to demand one Bacon Flyke hang. ing in the Hall of the Lord of Whichenowre, after the

· Form thereunto belonging.

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with Trumpets, Tabourets, and other manner of Minfirelsie. And all the Free Tenants of Whichenowe shall Conduct him to be passed the Lordship of Whichenown. And then shall they all return; except him, to whom appertaineth to make the Carriage and Journey without the County of Stafford, at the Costs of his Lord of Whichenowre.



No. 608. Monday, October 18.

- Perjuria ridet Amantum.

Ovid.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

A CCORDING to my Promise, I herewith transmit to you a List of several Persons, who from Time to Time demanded the Flitch of Bacm,

of Sir Philip de Somervile, and his Descendants; a it is preserved in an ancient Manuscript under the

'Title of The Register of Whichenovre-Hall, and of the

Bacon Flitch there maintained.

In the Beginning of this Record is recited the Law or Institution in Form, as it is already printed in your last Paper: To which are added Two By-law,

as a Comment upon the general Law, the Substance

whereof is, that the Wife shall take the same Oath as the Husband, mutatis mutandis; and that the Judges

fhall, as they think meet, interrogate or cross-examine

the Witnesses. After this proceeds the Register in

Manner following.

· Aubry de Falstaff, Son of Sir John Falstaff, Kt. · with Dame Maude his Wife, were the first that demand-

ed the Bacon, he having bribed twain of his Father's

· Companions to swear falsly in his Behalf, whereby h

gained the Flitch: But he and his said Wife falling inmediately into a Dispute how the said Bacon should he

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ALISON the Wife of Stephen Freckle, brought her faid Husband along with her, and set forth the good Conditions and Behaviour of her Consort, adding withal that she doubted not but he was ready to attest the like of her, his Wife; wher eupon he, the said Stephen, shaking his Head. she turned short upon him, and gave him a Box on the Ear.

PHILIP de Waverland, having laid his Hand upon the Book, when the Clause, Were I sole and she sole, was rehearsed, sound a secret Compunction rising in his

. Mind, and Role it off again.

RICHARD de Lovelets, who was a Courtier, and a very well-bred Man, being observed to besitate at the Words after our Marriage, was thereupon required to explain himself. He reply'd, by talking very largely of bis exact Complaisance while he was a Lover; and alledged, that he had not in the least disobliged his Wife for a Year and a Day before Marriage, which he hoped was the same Thing.

· Rejected.

JOCELINE Jolly, Esq; making it appear by unquefitionable Testimony, That he and his Wife had preserved full and entire Affection for the Space of the sirst Month, commonly called the Honey-moon; he had in Consideration thereof one Rasher bestowed upon him.

over before any Demandant appeared at Whichenovereball; infomuch that one would have thought that the whole Country were turned Jeaus, so little was their

Affection to the Flitch of Bacon.

'THE next Couple enrolled had like to have carried it, if one of the Witnesses had not deposed, That dining on a Sunday with the Demandant, whose Wise had sate below the Squire's Lady at Church, she the said Wise dropped some Expressions, as if she thought her Husband deserved to be knighted; to which he returned a passionate Pist! The Judges taking the Premises into Consideration, declared the aforesaid

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Behaviour to imply an unwarrantable Ambition in the

Wife, and Anger in the Husband.

IT is recorded as a sufficient Disqualification of a certain Wife, that speaking of her Husband, she said, God forgive bim.

IT is likewise remarkable, that a Couple were re-

that the Lady had once told her Husband, that it was ber Duty to obey; to which he replied, Oh! my Dear,

o you are never in the wrong.

THE violent Passion of one Lady for her Lap-dog; the turning away of the old House-maid by another;

a Tavern Bill torn by the Wife, and a Taylor's by the

Husband; a Quarrel about the Kissing-crust; spoiling
 of Dinners, and coming in late of Nights; are for

many feveral Articles which occasioned the Reproba-

tion of some scores of Demandants, whose Names are

recorded in the aforesaid Register.

WITHOUT enumerating other particular Persons,
I shall content myself with observing, that the Sentence pronounced against one Gerwase Poacher is, that he might have had Bacon to his Eggs, if he had not

heretofore scolded his Wife when they were over boiled.

And the Deposition against Dorothy Do-little runs in these Words; That she had so far usurped the Dominion of the Coal sire (the stirring whereof her Husband claimed to himself) that by her good Will she never would

" Suffer the Poker out of her Hand.

"I find but two Copies, in this first Century, that were successful: The first was a Sea Captain and his Wife, who since the Day of their Marriage, had not

feen one another till the Day of their Claim. The fe-

cond, was an honest Pair in the Neighbourhood; the

· Husband was a Man of plain good Sense, and a peace

' able Temper; the Woman was dumb.

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Mr. S THA Pap into ed you ' culation · walking ry often ' Town f 'Upon w if he to be Perfo after his hither c ' is apt to and Caff the addi nitude t from hi fince I k upon as made use turers of give it a justly ex well affu

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No. 609. Wednesday, October 20.

- Farrago libelli.

Juv.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

'T HAVE for some Time defired to appear in your Paper, and have therefore chosen a Day to steal into the SPECTATOR, when I take it for grant-'ed you will not have many spare Minutes for Spe-'culations of your own. As I was the other Day walking with an honest Country Gentleman, he ve-' ry often was expressing his Astonishment to see the ' Town so mightily crowded with Doctors of Divinity: ' Upon which I told him he was very much mistaken if he took all those Gentlemen he saw in Scars to be Persons of that Dignity; for, that a young Divine ' after his first Degree in the University, usually comes hither only to shew himself; and on that Occasion is apt to think he is but half equipped with a Gown ' and Cassock for his publick Appearance, if he hath not the additional Ornament of a Scarf of the first Magnitude to intitle him to the Appellation of Doctor from his Landlady and the Boy at Child's. Now fince I know that this Piece of Garniture is looked upon as a Mark of Vanity or Affectation, as it is made use of among some of the little spruce Adventurers of the l'own, I should be glad if you would give it a Place among those Extravagancies you have justly exposed in several of your Papers; being very well affured that the main Body of the Clergy, both in the Country and the Universities, who are almost to a Man untainted with it, would be very well pleased to see this venerable Foppery well exposed. When my Patron did me the Honour to take me into his Family, (for I must own myself of this Order he was pleased to say he took me as a Friend and :

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Mr. SPECTATOR,

Wish you would write a philosophical Paper about
Natural Antipathies, with a Word or two concerning the Strength of Imagination. I can give you
a List upon the first Notice, of a Rational China Cup,
of an Egg that walks upon two Legs, and a Quant
Pot that sings like a Nightingale. There is in my
Neighbourhood a very pretty prattling Shoulder of
Veal, that squawls out at the Sight of a Knife. Then
as for natural Antipathies, I know a General Officer
who was never conquered but by a smother'd Rabbit; and a Wise that domineers over her Husband by
the Help of a Breast of Mutton. A Story that relates to myself on this Subject may be thought not
unentertaining, especially when I assure you that its
literally true. I had long made Love to a Lady, in

the Possession of whom I am now the happies of Mankind, whose Hand I should have gained with

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much Difficulty without the Affistance of a Cat. You must know then, that my most dangerous Rival had fo firong an Aversion to this Species, that he infallibly · fwooned away at the Sight of that harmless Creature. · My Friend Mrs. Lucy, her Maid, having a greater Re-· fpect for me and my Purfe than she had for my Rival, ' always took Care to pin the Tail of a Cat under the · Gown of her Mistress, whenever she knew of his coming; which had fuch an Effect, that every Time he entered the Room, he looked more like one of the · Figures in Mr. Salmon's Wax-work, than a defirable Lover. In short, he grew sick of her Company; which the young Lady taking Notice of, (who no ' more knew why than he did) she sent me a Challenge to meet her in Lincoln's-inn Chappel, which I joyfully. ' accepted, and have (amongst other Pleasures) the 6atisfaction of being praised by her for my Stratagem, I ' am, &c.

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Mr. SPECTATOR,

THE Virgins of Great Britain are very much ol blig'd to you for putting them upon fuch tedious Drudgeries in Needlework as were fit only for the ' Hilpa's and the Nilpa's that lived before the Flood. · Here's a Stir indeed with your Histories in Embroidery, your Groves with Shades of Silk and Streams of "Mohair! I would have you to know, that I hope to kill a hundred Lovers before the best Housewife in ' England can stitch out a Battle, and do not fear but to provide Boys and Girls much faster than your Disciples can embroider them. I love Birds and Beafts as well as you, but am content to fancy them when they are really made. What do you think of gilt Leather for Furniture? There's your pretty Hangings for a Chamber; and what is more, our own Country is the only Flace in Europe where Work of that kind is tolerably done. Without minding your musty Lessons: I am this Minute going to Paul's Church-yard to befpeak a

194 The SPECTATOR. No. 610.

Skreen and a Set of Hangings; and am refolved to the

courage the Manufacture of my Country.

Yours,

CLEORA,

STEATESTESTESTESTES

No. 610. Friday, October 22.

Sic, cum transferint mei Nullo cum strepitu dies, Plebeius moriar senex: Illi mors gravis incubat, Qui, notus nimis omnibus, Ignotus moritur sibi.

Seneca.

I Have often wondered that the Jews should contrive fuch a worthless Greatness for the Deliverer whom they expected, as to dress him up in external Pomp and Pageantry, and represent him to their Imagination, as making Havock amongst his Creatures, and acted with the poor Ambition of a Caesar or an Alexander. How much more illustrious doth he appear in his real Character, when considered as the Author of universal Benevolence among Men, as refining our Passions, exalting our Nature, giving us vast Ideas of Immortality, and teaching us a Contempt of that little showy Grandeur, wherein the Jews made the Glory of their Messiab to consist!

NOTHING (says Longinus) can be Great, the Contempt of which is Great. The Possession of Wealth and Riches cannot give a Man a Title to Greatness, because it is looked upon as a Greatness of Mind, to contempt these Gifts of Fortune, and to be above the Desire of them. I have therefore been inclined to think, that there are greater Men who lye concealed among the Species, than those who come out, and draw upon themselves the Eyes and Admiration of Mankind. Virgid would never have been heard of, had not his Dome

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The SPECTATOR. No. 610.

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flick Misfortunes driven him out of his Obscurity, and

brought him to Rome.

If we suppose that there are Spirits or Angels who look into the Ways of Men, as it is highly probable there are, both from Reason and Revelation; how different are the Notions which they entertain of us, from those which we are apt to form of one another ? Were they to give us in their Catalogue of fuch Worthies as are now living, how different would it be from that, which any

of our own Species would draw up?

WE are dazzled with the Splendour of Titles, the Oftentation of Learning, the Noise of Victories; They, on the contrary, fee the Philosopher in the Cottage, who possesses his Soul in Patience and Thankfulness, under the Pressures of what little Minds call Poverty and Distress. They do not look for great Men at the Head of Armies. or among the Pomps of a Court, but often find themout in Shades and Solitudes, in the private Walks and By-paths of Life. The Evening's Walk of a wife Man is more illustrious in their Sight, than the March of a General at the Head of a hundred thousand Men. A Contemplation of God's Works; a voluntary Act of Justice to our own Detriment; a generous Concern for the Good of Mankind; Tears that are shed in Silence for the Misery of others; a private Defire or Resentment broken and subdued; in short, an unseigned Exercise of Humility, or any other Virtue; are such Actions as are glorious in their Sight, and denominate Men great and reputable. The most famous among us are often looked upon with Pity, with Contempt, or with Indignation; while those who are most obscure among their own Species, are regarded with Love, with Approbation and Esteem.

THE Moral of the present Speculation amounts to this, That we should not be led away by the Censures and Applauses of Men, but consider the Figure that every Person will make at that Time when Wisdom shall be justified of her Children, and nothing pass for Great or Illustrious, which is not an Ornament and Perfection to

human Nature.

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The Story of Gyges the rich Lydian Monarch, is a memorable Instance to our present Purpose. The Oracle being asked by Gyges, who was the happiest Man, replied Aglaüs. Gyges, who expected to have heard himself named on this Occasion, was much surprized, and very curious to know who this Aglaüs should be. After much Enquiry he was found to be an obscure Countryman, who employed all his Time in cultivating a Garden, and a few Acres of Land about his House.

COWLEY's agreeable Relation of this Story shall

close this Day's Speculation.

Thus Aglaus (a Man unknown to Men, But the Gods knew, and therefore low'd him then) Thus liv'd obscurely then without a Name, Aglaus now confign'd t' eternal Fame. For Gyges, the rich King, wicked and great, Presum'd at wife Apollo's Delphick Seat, Presum'd to ask, Ob thou, the whole World's Eye, See'st thou a Man that happier is than I? The God, who scorn'd to flatter Man, reply'd, Aglaüs bappier is. But Gyges cry'd, In a proud Rage, Who can that Aglaus be? We've heard as yet of no such King as he. And true it was, through the whole Earth around, No King of such a Name was to be found. Is some old Hero of that Name alive, Who his high Race does from the God's derive? Is it some mighty Gen'ral, that has done Wonders in Fight, and God-like Honours won? Is it some Man of endless Wealth? Said he: None, none of thefe; who can this Aglaus be? After long Search, and vain Enquiries past, In an obscure Arcadian Vale at laft, (Th' Arcadian Life bas always shady been) Near Sopho's Town (which he but once had feen) This Aglaus, who Monarchs Envy drew, Whose Happiness the Gods stood Witness to. This mighty Aglaus was lab'ring found, With his own Hands, in his own little Ground.

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So, gracious God, (if it may lawful be, Among those foolish Gods to mention thee)
So let me act, on such a private Stage,
The last dull Scenes of my declining Age;
After long Toils and Voyages in vain,
This quiet Port let my toss'd Vessel gain;
Of heav'nly Rest, this Earnest to me lend,
Let my Life sleep, and learn to love her End.

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No. 611. Monday, October 25.

Perfide! sed duris genuit te cautibus horrens Caucasus, Hircanæque admôrunt ubera tigres.

Virg.

I Am willing to postpone every Thing, to do any the least Service for the Deserving and Unfortunate. Accordingly I have caused the following Letter to be inserted in my Paper the Moment that it came to my Hands, without altering one Tittle in an Account which the Lady relates so handsomely herself.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

I Flatter myfelf you will not only pity, but, if I possible, redress a Missortune myself and several others of my Sex lye under. I hope you will not be offended, nor think I mean by this to justify my own imprudent Conduct, or expect You should. No! I am fensible how feverely, in some of your former Papers, you have reproved Persons guilty of the like Mismanagements. I was scarce Sixteen, and, I may fay without Vanity, Handsome, when courted by a false perjured Man; who, upon Promife of Marriage, rendred me the most unhappy of Women. After he had deluded my from my Parents, who were People of very good Fashion, in less than three Months he left me: My Parents would not fee, nor hear from me; and had it not been.

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been for a Servant, who had lived in our Family, " I must certainly have perished for want of Bread. · However, it pleased Providence, in a very short " Time, to alter my miserable Condition. A Gentle-" man faw me, liked me, and married me. My Parents were reconciled; and I might be as happy in the Change of my Condition, as I was before mife. rable, but for fome Things, that you shall know, which are insupportable to me; and I am sure you have so much Honour and Compassion as to let those Persons know, in some of your Papers, how much they are in the wrong. I have been married near five Years, and do not know that in all that Time I ever went abroad without my Husband's Leave and Approbation. I am obliged, through the Importunities of feveral of my Relations, to go abroad oftner than suits my Temper. Then it is I labour under insupportable Agonies. That Man, or rather Monster, haunts every Place I go to. Bale Villain! By reason I will not admit his nauseous wicked Vifits and Appointments, he strives all the Ways he can to ruin me. He left me destitute of Friend or Money, nor ever thought me worth enquiring after, till he unfortunately happened to fee me in a Front Box, sparkling with Jewels, Then his Passion returned. Then the Hypocrite pretended to be a Penitent. Then he practised all those Arts that helped before to undo me. I am not to be deceived a second Time by him. I hate and abhor his odious Passion; and, as he plainly perceives it, either out of Spight or Diversion, he makes it his Bufinels to expose me. I never fail seeing him in all publick Company, where he is always most industriously spightful. He hath, in short, told all his Acquaintance of our unhappy Affair; they tell their; fo that it is no Secret among his Companions, which are numerous. They to whom he tells it, think they have a Title to be very familiar. If they bow to me, and I out of good Manners return it, then am pestered with Freedoms that are no ways agree able to myfelf or Company. If I turn my Eye fro

No. 61 from t and wh at laft · Nay, t miftake Man, Q are guilt ceeding fon aim' of other that Me we must the Art testable. of fevera lye under for a Ma as it is to refent it.

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from them, or feem displeased, they sowre upon it, and whisper the next Person; he his next; 'till I have at last the Eyes of the whole Company upon me. Nay, they report abominable Falshoods, under that mistaken Notion, She that will grant Favours to one Man, will to a bundred. I beg you will let those who are guilty, know, how ungenerous this way of Proceeding is. I am fure he will know himself the Per-' fon aim'd at, and perhaps put a Stop to the Infolence of others. Curfed is the Fate of unhappy Women! that Men may boast and glery in those Things that we must think of with Shame and Horror! You have the Art of making such odious Customs appear detestable. For my Sake, and I am fure, for the Sake of several others, who dare not own it, but, like me, lye under the same Missortunes, make it as infamous for a Man to boast of Favours, or expose our Sex, as it is to take the Lie or a Box on the Ear, and not refent it.

Your constant Reader,

and Admirer,

LESBIA:

P. S. ' I am the more impatient under this Misfortune, having receiv'd fresh Provocation, last Wednefday, in the Abby.

I entirely agree with the amiable and unfortunate LESBIA, that an Infult upon a Woman in her Circumstances, is as infamous in a Man, as a tame Behaviour when the Lie or a Buffet is given; which Truth, I shall beg leave of her to illustrate by the following Observation.

It is a Mark of Cowardise passively to sorbear renting an affront, the resenting of which would lead Man into Danger; it is no less a Sign of Cowardise affront a Creature, that hath not Power to avenge it less. Whatever Name therefore this ungenerous Man

may

may bestow on the helpless Lady he hath injur'd, I shall not scruple to give him in Return for it, the Appellation of Coward.

A Man, that can so far descend from his Dignity, as to strike a Lady, can never recover his Reputation with either Sex, because no Provocation is thought strong enough to justify such Treatment from the Powerful towards the Weak. In the Circumstances, in which poor LESBIA is situated, she can appeal to no Man whatsoever to avenge an Insult, more grievous than a Blow. If she could open her Mouth, the base Man knows, that a Husband, a Brother, a generous Friend

would die to see her righted.

A generous Mind, however enrag'd against an Ene my, feels its Resentments fink and vanish away, when the Object of its Wrath falls into its Power. An estranged Friend, filled with Jealoufy and Discontent towards a Bosom-Acquaintance, is apt to overflow with Tenderness and Remorse, when a Creature, that was once dear to him, undergoes any Misfortune. What Name then shall we give to his Ingratitude, (who forgetting the Favours he follicited with Eagerness, and receiv'd with Rapture) can infult the Miferies that he himself caused, and make Sport with the Pain to which he owes his greatest Pleasure? There is but one Being in the Creation whose Province it is to practise upon the Imbecilities of frail Creatures, and triumph in the Woes which his own Arcifices brought about; and we well know, those who follow his Example, will receive his Reward.

LEAVING my fair Correspondent to the Direction of her own Wisdom and Modesty; and her Enemy, and his mean Accomplices, to the Compunction of their own Hearts; I shall conclude this Paper with a memorable Instance of Revenge, taken by a Spanish Lady upon a guilty Lover, which may serve to show what violent Effects are wrought by the most tender Passion, when sower'd into Hatred; and may deter the young and unwary from unlawful Love. The Story, however Romantick it may appear, I have heard affirmed for a Truth.

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No. 612.

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Not many Years ago an English Gentleman, who in a Rencounter by Night in the Streets of Madrid had the Misfortune to kill his Man, fled into a Church-Porch for Sanctuary. Leaning against the Door, he was furpriz'd to find it open, and a glimmering Light in the Church. He had the Courage to advance towards the Light; but was terribly startled at the Sight of Woman in white who ascended from a Grave with bloody Knife in her Hand. The Phantome marched up to him, and asked him what he did there. He told her the Truth, without Referve, believing that he had met a Ghost: Upon which, she spoke to him in the following Manner. "Stranger, thou art in my Power: "I am a Murderer as thou art. Know then, that I " am a Nun of a noble Family. A base perjur'd Man " undid me, and boafted of it. I soon had him dis-"patched; but not content with the Murder, I have "brib'd the Sexton to let me enter his Grave, and "have now pluck'd out his false Heart from his "Body; and thus I use a Traytor's Heart. Words she tore it Pieces, and trampled it under her Feet.

No. 612. Wednesday, October 27.

Murranum bic atavos & avorum antiqua sonantem
Nomina per regesque actum genus omne Latinos,
Præcipitem scopulo, atque ingentis turbine saxi,
Excutit, effunditque solo.
Virg.

Tis highly laudable to pay Respect to Men who are descended from worthy Ancestors, not only out of Gratitude to those who have done good to Manind, but as it is an Encouragement to others to solwtheir Example. But this is an Honour to be received, at demanded, by the Descendants of great Men; and by who are apt to remind us of their Ancestors, only put

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put us upon making Comparisons to their own Difad. There is some Pretence for boasting of Wit. vantage. Beauty, Strength or Wealth, because the Communication of them may give Pleasure or Profit to others; but we can have no Merit, nor ought we to claim any Respect, because our Fathers acted well, whether we would or no.

THE following Letter ridicules the Folly I have mentioned, in a new, and, I think, not disagreeable Light.

Mr. SPECTATOR.

ERE the Genealogy of every Family pre-ferved, there would probably be no Man va-· lued or despis'd on Account of his Birth. There is fcarce a Beggar in the Streets, who would not find himself lineally descended from some great Man; nor any one of the highest Title, who would not discover several base and indigent Persons among his Ancestors. It would be a pleasant Entertainment to see one Pedigree of Men appear together, under the same · Characters they bore when they acted their respective Parts among the Living. Suppose therefore a Gen-' tleman, full of his illustrious Family, should, in the fame manner as Virgil makes Æneas look over his Defcendants, fee the whole Line of his Progenitors pals in a Review before his Eyes, with how many varying Passions would he behold Shepherds and Soldiers, Statesmen and Artificers, Princes and Beggars, walk

his Heart fink or flutter at the several Sports of Fortune in a Scene so diversified with Rags and Purple, ' Handicraft Tools and Scepters, Enfigns of Dignity and Emblems of Difgrace; and how would his Fears

in the Procession of five thousand Years! How would

and Apprehensions, his Transports and Mortifications, ' fucceed one another, as the Line of his Genealogy

appear'd bright or obscure?

' In most of the Pedigrees hung up in old Mansion houses, you are fure to find the first in the Cata-· logue a great Statesman, or a Soldier with honourable Commission. The honest Artificer that begot him, and all his frugal Ancestors before him, are tom

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less was 1 who was tions of ; off from the Top of the Register; and you are not · left to imagine, that the noble Founder of the Family ever had a Father. Were we to trace many boafted Lines farther backwards, we should lose them in a Mob of Tradesmen, or a Crowd of Rusticks, without Hope of feeing them emerge again: Not unlike the old Appian Way, which after having run many ' Miles in length, lofes it felf in a Bog.

' I lately made a Vifit to an old Country Gentleman. who is very far gone in this Sort of Family Madness. I found him in his Study perufing an old Register of his Family, which he had just then discover'd, as it was branched out in the Form of a Tree, upon a Skin of Parchment. Having the Honour to have some of his Blood in my Veins, he permitted me to cast my Eye over the Boughs of this venerable Plant; and asked my advice in the Reforming of some of the

' fuperfluous Branches.

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'WE passed slightly over three or four of our immediate Fore-fathers, whom we knew by Tradition. but were foon stopped by an Alderman of London, 'who, I perceived, made my Kinfman's Heart go pit-'a-pat. His Confusion encreased when he found the 'Alderman's Father to be a Grafier; but he recovered ' his Fright upon seeing Justice of the Quorum at the ' End of his Titles. Things went on pretty well, as we threw our Eyes occasionally over the Tree, when unfortunately he perceived a Merchant-Tailor perched on a Bough, who was faid greatly to have encreased the Estate; he was just a going to cut him off, if he ' had not seen Gent. after the Name of his Son; who was recorded to have mortgaged one of the Manors ' his honest Father had purchased. A Weaver, who was burnt for his Religion in the Reign of Queen ' Mary, was pruned away without Mercy; as was likewise a Yeoman, who died of a Fall from his own ' Cart. But great was our Triumph in one of the Blood ' who was beheaded for High Treason; which nevertheless was not a little allayed by another of our Ancestors who was hanged for stealing Sheep. The Expectations of my good Cousin were wonderfully raised by a Match Match into the Family of a Knight, but unfortunately for us for this Branch proved barren: On the other

Hand Margery the Milk-maid being twined round a
Bough, it flourished out into fo many Shoots, and
bent with fo much Fruit, that the old Gentleman was

duite out of Countenance. To comfort me, under this Difgrace, he fingled out a Branch ten Times more

fruitful than the other, which, he told me, he valued more than any in the Tree, and bad me be of good Comfort. This enormous Bough was a Graft out of

a Welfb Heires, with so many Ap's upon it that it might have made a little Grove by it self. From the

Trunk of the Pedigree, which was chiefly composed of Labourers and Shepherds, arose a huge Sprout of

Farmers; this was branched out into Yeomen; and ended in a Sheriff of the County, who was knighted

for his good Service to the Crown, in bringing up an Address. Several of the Names that seemed to dis-

parage the Family, being looked upon as Mistakes,

were lopped off as rotten or withered; as, on the contrary, no small Number appearing without any

Titles, my Cousin, to supply the Defects of the Manuscript, added E/q; at the End of each of them.

This Tree so pruned, dressed, and cultivated, was, within few Days, transplanted into a large Sheet of Vellum and placed in the great Hall, where it attracts the Veneration of his Tenants every Sunday

Morning, while they wait till his Worship is ready to go to Church; wondering that a Man who had so

go to Church; wondering that a Man who had be many Fathers before him, should not be made a Knight,

or at least a Justice of the Peace.

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TT is re engrof fince I content no There are Readers an ters have a The Town rity will fe of these 1 The Benefi gain more which I ir redrefs Gr between th Spectator V

worked to every Re mark: The tentment Melanche glorious. tue: We And tho'

Mr. SPI

Was r

terior Po philosoph Vol. V No. 613. Friday, October 29.

-Studiis florentem ignobilis oti.

Virg.

TT is reckoned a Piece of Ill-breeding for one Man to engross the whole Talk to himself. For this Reason, fince I keep three Visiting-Days in the Week, I am content now and then to let my Friends put in a Word. There are feveral Advantages hereby accruing both to my Readers and my felf. As first, young and modest Writers have an Opportunity of getting into Print: Again, The Town enjoys the Pleasure of Variety; and Posterity will fee the Humour of the present Age, by the help of these little Lights into private and domestick Life. The Benefits I receive from thence, are such as these: I gain more Time for future Speculations; pick up Hints which I improve for the publick Good; give Advice; redress Grievances; and, by leaving commodious Spaces between the several Letters that I print, furnish out a Spedator with little Labour and great Oftentation.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

Was mightily pleased with your Speculation of Friday. Your Sentiments are noble, and the whole worked up in such a manner, as cannot but strike upon every Reader. But give me leave to make this Remark: That while you write so pathetically on Contentment, and a retired Life, you sooth the Passion of Melancholy, and depress the Mind from Actions truly glorious. Titles and Honours are the Reward of Virtue: We therefore ought to be affected with them: And tho' light Minds are too much pussed up with exterior Pomp, yet I cannot see why it is not as truly philosophical, to admire the glowing Ruby, or the Vol. VIII.

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fparkling Green of an Emerald, as the fainter and less e permanent Beauties of a Rose or a Myrtle. If there

are Men of extraordinary Capacities who lye concealed

from the World, I should impute it to them as a Blot in their Character, did not I believe it owing to the

Meanness of their Fortune rather than of their Spirit,

· Cowley, who tells the Story of Aglaus with fo much Pleasure, was no Stranger to Courts, nor insensible of

· Praise.

What shall I do to be for ever known, And make the Age to come my own?

was the Result of a laudable Ambition. It was not till after frequent Disappointments, that he termed himself the melancholy Cowley; and he praised Solitude, when he despaired of shining in a Court. The Soul of Man is an active Principle. He therefore, who withdraws himself from the Scene before he has play'd his Part, ought to be hissed off the Stage, and cannot be deemed virtuous, because he refuses to answer his End. I must own I am fir'd with an honest Ambition to imitate every illustrious Example. The Battles of Blenheim and Ramillies have more than once made me wish my self And when I have feen those Actions so nobly celebrated by our Poets, I have fecretly afpired to be one of that distinguished Class. But in vain I with, in vain I pant with the Desire of Action. I am chained down in Obscurity, and the only Pleasure I can take is in feeing fo many brighter Genius's join their · friendly Lights to add to the Splendor of the Throne. · Farewel then, dear Spec, and believe me to be with

egreat Emulation, and no Envy,

Your profess'd Admirer,

Will. Hopeless.

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SIR, Middle-Temple, Octob. 26, 1714. HO' you have formerly made Eloquence the Subject of one or more of your Papers, I do not remember that you ever consider'd it as possessed by a Set of People, who are so far from making Quintilian's Rules their Practice, that, I dare fay for them, they never heard of fuch an Author, and yet are no less Maflers of it than Tully or Domosthenes among the Ancients, or whom you please amongst the Moderns. The Per-' fons I am speaking of are our common Beggars about this Town; and that what I fay is true, I appeal to any 'Man who has a Heart one Degree fofter than a Stone. ' As for my part, who don't pretend to more Humanity than my Neighbours, I have oftentimes gone from my 'Chambers with Money in my Pocket, and return'd to them not only Pennyless, but destitute of a Farthing, ' without bestowing of it any other way than on these ' feeming Objects of Pity. In fhort, I have feen more Eloquence in a Look from one of these despicable Creatures, than in the Eye of the fairest She I ever faw, yet 'no one a greater Admirer of that Sex than my felf. What I have to defire of you is, to lay down some Directions in order to guard against these powerful Ora-' tors, or else I know nothing to the contrary but I must 'my felf be forced to leave the Profession of the Law, ' and endeavour to get the Qualifications necessary to that ' more profitable one of Begging. But in which foever of these two Capacities I shine, I shall always defire to be your constant Reader, and ever will be

Your most humble Servant,

J. B.

Fanny Fickle tubmitted the Choice of a Lover for Life to your decifive Determination, and imagining I might claim the Favour of your Advice in an Affair K 2

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SIR,

fome Time. But alas! while I was reflecting on the agreeable Subject, and contriving an advantageous Deficiption of the dear Person I was most inclined to favour. I happened to look into my Glass. The sixty

vour, I happened to look into my Glass. The Sight of the Small-Pox, out of which I am just recovered,

tormented me at once with the Loss of my captivating
Arts and my Captives. The Confusion I was in, on
this unhappy, unseasonable Discovery, is inexpressible.

Believe me, Sir, I was fo taken up with the Thoughts
of your fair Correspondent's Case, and so intent on

my own Defigns, that I fancied my felf as triumphant

in my Conquests as ever.

Now, Sir, finding I was incapacitated to amuse myself on that pleasing Subject, I resolved to apply my self to you, or your Casuistical Agent, for Advice in my present Circumstances. I am sensible the Tincture of my Skin, and the Regularity of my Features, which the Malice of my late Illness has altered, are irrecoverable; yet don't despair, but that Loss, by your Assistance, may in some measure be repairable, if you'll

please to propose a Way for the Recovery of one only of my Fugitives.

ONE of them is in a more particular Manner beholden to me than the rest; he for some private Reasons being desirous to be a Lover incognito, always addressed me with Billet-Doux, which I was so careful
of in my Sickness, that I secured the Key of my
Love-Magazine under my Head, and hearing a Noise
of opening a Lock in my Chamber, endanger'd my

Life by getting out of Bed, to prevent, if it had been attempted, the Discovery of that Amour.

I have formerly made use of all those Artifices, which our Sex daily practises over yours, to draw, as it were undesignedly, the Eyes of a whole Congregation to my Pew; I have taken a Pride in the Number of Admirers at my Afternoon Levee; but am now quite another Creature. I think, could I regain the attractive Infa-

ence I once had, if I had a Legion of Suitors, I should never

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never be ambitious of entertaining more than one. I have almost contracted an Antipathy to the trisling discourses of impertinent Lovers, though I must needs own, I have thought it very odd of late, to hear Gentlemen, instead of their usual Complacencies, fall into Disputes before me of Politicks, or else weary me with the tedious Repetition of how thankful I ought to be, and satisfied with my Recovery out of so dangerous a Distemper: This, tho' I am very sensible of the Blessing, yet I cannot but dislike, because such Advice from them rather seems to insult than comfort me, and reminds me too much of what I was; which melancholy Consideration I cannot yet perfectly surmount, but hope your sentiments on this Head will make it supportable.

'To shew you what a Value I have for your Dictates, these are to certify the Persons concern'd, that unless one of them returns to his Colours, (if I may so call them now) before the Winter is over, I'll voluntarily confine my self to a Retirement, where I'll punish them all with my Needle. I'll be reveng'd on them by deciphering them on a Carpet, humbly begging Admittance, myself scornfully refusing it: If you disapprove of this, as savouring too much of Malice, be pleased to acquaint me with a Draught you like better, and

' it shall be faithfully performed

By the Unfortunate

Monimia.



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No. 614. Monday, November 1.

Si mihi non animo fixum, immotumque sederet,
Ne cui me vinclo vellem sociare jugali,
Postquam primus amor deceptam morte sessellit;
Si non pertæsum thalami, tedæque suisset;
Huic uni sorsan potui succumbere culpæ.

Virg.

THE following Account hath been transmitted to me by the Love Casuist.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

HAVING, in some former Papers, taken Care of the two States of Virginity and Marriage, and

- being willing that all People should be served in their Turn, I this Day drew out my Drawer of Widows,
- where I met with feveral Cases, to each whereof I
- have returned fatisfactory Answers by the Post. The

· Cases are as follow:

- Q. WHETHER Amoret be bound by a Promise of Marriage to Philander, made during her Husband's Life?
- · Q. WHETHER Sempronia, having faithfully given a Promise to two several Persons during the last
- Sickness of her Husband, is not thereby lest at Liberty to chuse which of them she pleases, or to reject them

both for the fake of a new Lover?

- · CLEOR A asks me, Whether she be obliged to
- continue fingle, according to a Vow made to her Hufband at the time of his prefenting her with a Diamond
- · Necklace; she being informed by a very pretty young
- · Fellow of a good Conscience, that such Vows are in

' their Nature finful ?

- ANOTHER enquires, Whether she hath not the Right of Widowhood, to dispose of her self to
- a Gentleman of great Merit, who presses very hardi

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her Husband being irrecoverably gone in a Consumption?

'AN unreasonable Creature hath the Confidence to ask, Whether it be proper for her to marry a Man

who is younger than her eldest Son?

'A scrupulous well-spoken Matron, who gives me 'a great many good Words, only doubts, Whether she is not obliged in Conscience to shut up her two marriageable Daughters, till such time as she hath com-

' fortably disposed of her self?

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SOPHRONIA, who feems by her Phrase and Spelling to be a Person of Condition, sets forth, That whereas she hath a great Estate, and is but a Woman, she desires to be informed, whether she would not do prudently to marry Camillus, a very idle tall young Fellow, who hath no Fortune of his own, and consequently hath nothing else to do but to manage hers:

Before I speak of Widows, I cannot but obferve one thing, which I do not know how to account for; a Widow is always more fought after,
than an old Maid of the same Age. It is common
enough among ordinary People, for a stale Virgin to
set up a Shop in a Place where she is not known;
where the large Thumb-Ring, supposed to be given
her by her Husband, quickly recommends her to some
wealthy Neighbour, who takes a Liking to the jolly
Widow, that would have overlooked the venerable
Spinster.

THE Truth of it is, if we look into this Sett of Women, we find, according to the different Characters or Circumstances wherein they are left, that Widows may be divided into those who raise Love, and those

who raise Compassion.

Bur not to ramble from this Subject, there are two Things in which confids chiefly the Glory of a Widow; The Love of her deceased Husband, and the Care of her Children: To which may be added a third ariting out of the former, Such a prudent Conduct as may do Honour to both.

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not only a virtuous but a sublime Character.

There is fomething so great and so generous in this State of Life, when it is accompanied with all its Virtues, that it is the Subject of one of the finest among our modern Tragedies in the Person of Andromache; and hath met with an universal and deserved Applause, when introduced upon our English Stage by Mr. Philips.

The most memorable Widow in History is Queen Artemisia, who not only erected the famous Mausoleum, but drank up the Ashes of her dead Lord; thereby enclosing them in a nobler Monument than that which she had built, though deservedly esteemed one of the Won-

ders of Architecture.

This last Lady seems to have had a better Title to a second Husband than any I have read of, since not one Dust of her First was remaining. Our modern Heroines might think a Husband a very better Draught, and would have good Reason to complain if they might not accept of a second Partner, till they had taken such a troublesome Method of losing the Me

mory of the first.

I shall add to these illustrious Examples out of ancient Story a remarkable Instance of the Delicacy of our Ancestors in Relation to the State of Widowhood, as I find it recorded in Cowell's Interpreter. At East and West-Enborne, in the County of Berks, if a Customary Tenant die, the Widow shall have what the Law calls her Free-Bench in all his Copy-hold Lands, dum sola & casta suerit; that is, while she lives single and chaste; but if she commit Incontinence, she forfeits her Esteem: Yat if she will come into the Court riding backward upon a Black Ram, with his Tail in her Hand, and say the Words Following, the Steward is bound by the Custom to re-admit her to her Free-Bench.

Here I am, Riding upon a Black Ram, Like a Whore as I am; No. 6

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No. 61

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I T must fion, so tues to Preservation long as we But as Life worth the of losing to losophy to direct our life.

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And, for my Crincum Crancum,
Have lost my Bincum Bancum,
And, for my Tail's Game,
Have done this worldly Shame;
Therefore, I pray you Mr. Steward, let me have
my Land again.

THE like Custom there is in the Manor of Torre in

Devonshire, and other Parts of the Weft.

It is not impossible but I may in a little Time prefent you with a Register of Berkshire Ladies and other Western Dames, who rode publickly upon this Occasion; and I hope the Town will be entertained with a Cavalcade of Widows.

No. 615. Wednesday, November 3.

Qui Deorum
Muneribus sapienter uti,
Duramque callet pauperiem pati,
Pejusque letho flagitium timet:
Non ille pro caris amicis
Aut patriâ timidus perire.

Hor.

I T must be owned that Fear is a very powerful Passion, since it is esteemed one of the greatest of Virtues to subdue it. It being implanted in us for our Preservation, it is no Wonder that it sticks close to us, as long as we have any Thing we are willing to preserve. But as Life, and all its Enjoyments, would be scarce worth the keeping, if we were under a perpetual Dread of losing them; it is the Business of Religion and Philosophy to free us from all unnecessary Anxieties, and direct our Fear to its proper Object.

Is we consider the Painfulness of this Passion, and the violent Essects it produces, we shall see how dangerous it is to give way to it upon slight Occasions.

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O! Nox, quam longa es, quæ facis una Senem.

THESE Apprehensions, if they proceed from a Conficiousness of Guilt, are the sad Warnings of Reason; and may excite our Pity, but admit of no Remedy. When the Hand of the Almighty is visibly listed against the Impious, the Heart of mortal Man cannot withstand him. We have this Passion sublimely represented in the Punishment of the Egyptians, tormented with the Plague of Darkness, in the Apocryphal Book of Wisdom ascribed to Solomon.

For when unrighteous Men thought to oppress
the holy Nation; they being shut up in their Houses,

the Prisoners of Darkness, and fetter'd with the Bonds of a long Night, lay there exiled from the eternal Pro-

vidence. For while they supposed to lye hid in their

fecret Sins, they were scattered under a dark Veil of Forgetfulness, being horribly akonished and troubled

with strange Apparitions __ For Wickedness, condemn-

ed by her own Witness, is very timorous, and being

oppressed with Conscience, always forecasteth grievous
Things. For Fear is nothing else but a betraying of

the Succours which Reason offereth __ For the whole

World shined with clear Light, and none were hin-

dered in their Labour. Over them only was spread a

heavy Night, an Image of that Darkness which should

afterwards receive them; but yet were they unto

themselves more grievous than the Darkness.

To Fear, so justly grounded, no Remedy can be proposed; but a Man (who hath no great Guilt hanging upon his Mind, who walks in the plain Path of Justice and Integrity, and yet either by natural Complexion, or confirmed Prejudices, or Neglect of senous Resection, suffers himself to be moved by this abject and unmanly Passion) would do well to confer, That there is nothing which deserves his Fear, but

but that tector, he fixed in the What Loo of the Aprofa Morn ness is the us on to the is in Deat ginning of the die, is incompared to any The

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The SPECTATOR. No. 615.

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but that beneficent Being who is his Friend, his Protector, his Father. Were this one Thought strongly fixed in the Mind, what Calamity would be dreadful? What Load can Infamy lay upon us when we are fure of the Approbation of him who will repay the Difgrace of a Moment with the Glory of Eternity? What Sharpness is there in Pain and Diseases, when they only hasten us on to the Pleasures that will never fade? What Sting is in Death, when we are affured that it is only the Beginning of Life? A Man who lives fo, as not to fear to die, is inconfistent with himself, if he delivers himself up to any incidental Anxiety.

THE Intrepidity of a just good Man is so nobly fet forth by Horace, that it cannot be too often re-

peated.

The Man refolo'd and steady to his Trust, Inflexible to Ill, and obstinately just, May the rude Rabble's Infolence despise, Their senseless Clamours, and tumultuous Cries; The Tyrant's Fierceness be beguiles, And the stern Brow, and the hoarse Voice defies. And with superior Greatness smiles.

Not the rough Whirlwind, that deforms Adria's black Gulf, and vexes it with Storms, The stubborn Virtue of his Soul can move; Not the red Arm of angry Jove, That flings the Thunder from the Sky, And gives it Rage to roar, and Strength to fly.

Should the whole Frame of Nature round him break, In Ruin and Confusion burld, He, unconcern'd would bear the mighty Crack, And fland secure amidst a falling World.

THE Vanity of Fear may be yet farther illustrated, if we reflect,

First, WHAT we fear may not come to pass. human Scheme can be so accurately projected, but some little Circumstance intervening may spoil it. He, who

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directs the Heart of Man at his Pleasure, and understands the Thoughts long before, may by ten thousand Accidents, or an immediate Change in the Inclinations of Men, disconcert the most subtle Project, and turn it to

the Benefit of his own Servants.

In the next Place we should consider, though the Evil we imagine should come to pass, it may be much more supportable than it appeared to be. As there is no prosperous State of Life without its Calamities, fo there is no Adversity without its Benefits. Ask the Great and Powerful, if they do not feel the Pangs of Envy and Ambition. Enquire of the Poor and Needy, if they have not tasted the Sweets of Quiet and Contentment. Even under the Pains of Body; the Infide. lity of Friends; or the Misconstructions put upon our laudable Actions, our Minds (when for some Time accustomed to these Pressures) are sensible of secret Flowings of Comfort, the present Reward of a pious Refignation. The Evils of this Life appear like Rocks and Precipices, rugged and barren at a Distance, but at our nearer Approach, we find little fruitful Spots, and refreshing Springs, mixed with the Harshness and Deformities of Nature.

In the last Place, we may comfort ourselves with this Consideration; that, as the Thing seared may not reach us, so we may not reach what we sear: Our Lives may not extend to that dreadful Point which we have in View. He who knows all our Failings, and will not suffer us to be tempted beyond our Strength, is often pleased in his tender Severity, to separate the Soul from

its Body and Miseries together.

IF we look forward to him for Help, we shall never be in Danger of falling down those Precipices which our Imagination is apt to create. Like those who walk upon a Line, if we keep our Eye fixed upon one Point, we may step forward securely; whereas an imprudent or cowardly Glance on either Side will infallibly destroy us.

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No. 6

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No. 616. Friday, November 5.

Qui bellus homo eft, Cotta, pufillus homo eft. Martial.

OICERO hath observed, that a Jest is never uttered with a better Grace, than when it is accompanied with a ferious Countenance. When a pleasant Thought plays in the Features, before it discovers itself in Words, it raises too great an Expectation, and loses the Advantage of giving Surprize. Wit and Humour are no less poorly recommended by a Levity of Phrase, and that kind of Language which may be distinguished by the Name of Cant. Ridicule is never more strong, than when it is concealed in Gravity. True Humour lies in the Thought, and arises from the Representation of Images in odd Circumstances, and uncommon Lights. A pleasant Thought strikes us by the Force of its natural Beauty; and the Mirth of it is generally rather palled, than heightened by that ridiculeus Phraseology, which is so much in Fashion among the Pretenders to Humour and Pleasantry. This Tribe of Men are like our Mountebanks; they make a Man a Wit, by putting him in a fantastick Habit.

Our little Burleique Authors, who are the Delight of ordinary Readers, generally abound in these pert Phrases, which have in them more Vivacity than Wit.

I lately faw an Instance of this kind of Writing, which gave me so lively an Idea of it, that I could not forbear begging a Copy of the Letter from the Gentleman who shew'd it to me. It is written by a Country Wit, upon the Occasion of the Rejoycings on the Day of the King's Coronation.

Dear Jack,

a frofty Morning.

T Have just left the Right Worshipful and his Myr. I mydons about a Sneaker of five Gallons. The whole Magistracy was pretty well disguised before I gave 'em the Slip. Our Friend the Alderman was half Seas over before the Bonfire was out. We had

with us the Attorney, and two or three other bright

· Fellows. The Doctor plays leaft in Sight. AT nine a-Clock in the Evening we fet Fire to The Devil acted his Part to the Whore of Babylon. a Miracle. He has made his Fortune by it. We equipp'd the young Dog with a Tester a-piece. Ho-· nest old Brown of England was very drunk, and shewed his Loyalty to the Tune of a hundred Rockets. The Mob drank the King's Health on their Marrow. bones, in Mother Day's Double. They whipped us half a dozen Hogsheads. Poor Tom Tyler had like to have been demolished with the End of a Sky-rocket, that fell upon the Bridge of his Nose as he was drinking the King's Health, and spoiled his Tip. The ' Mob were very loyal till about Midnight, when they grew a little mutinous for more Liquor. They had like to have dumfounded the Justice; but his Clerk came in to his Affistance, and took them all down in Black and White.

' WHEN I had been huzza'd out of my feven Senfes, I made a Visit to the Women, who were guzzling very comfortably. Mrs. Mayoress clipped the King's

· English. Clack was the Word.

I forgot to tell thee, that every one of the Posse had his Hat cocked with a Distich: The Senators sent w down a Cargo of Ribbon and Metre for the Occasion.

SIR Richard, to shew his Zeal for the Protestant Religion, is at the Expence of a Tar-barrel and a Ball.

· I peeped into the Knight's great Hall, and faw a very pretty Bevy of Spinsters. My dear Relict was amongst

them, and ambled in a Country-dance as notably a

the best of 'em.

Paft two a-Clock and

· Adieu.

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HER one o Phra Paper; the pous Expre The first sa the College As noth

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No. 617. The SPECTATOR.

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'MAY all his Majesty's liege Subjects love him as well as his good Poople of this his ancient Borough.
'Adieu.

No. 617. Monday, November 8.

Torva Mimalloneis implerunt cornua bombis, Et raptum vitulo caput ablatura superbo Bassaris, & lyncem Mænas slexura corymbis, Evion ingeminat: reparabilis adsonat Echo. Persius.

THERE are two Extreams in the Stile of Humour, one of which confists in the Use of that little pert Phraseology which I took Notice of in my last Paper; the other in the Affectation of strained and pompous Expressions, fetched from the learned Languages. The first savours too much of the Town; the other of the College.

As nothing illustrates better than Example, I shall here present my Reader with a Letter of pedantick Humour, which was written by a young Gentleman of the University to his Friend; on the same Occasion, and from the same Place, as the lively Epistle published in

my last Spectator.

Dear Chum,

IT is now the third Watch of the Night, the greateft Part of which I have spent round a capacious
Bowl of China, silled with the choicest Products of
both the Indies. I was placed at a quadrangular
Table, diametrically opposite to the Mace-bearer.
The Visage of that venerable Herald was, according
to Custom, most gloriously illuminated on this joyful
Occasion. The Mayor and Aldermen, those Pillars
of our Constitution, began to totter; and if any one at
the Board could have so far articulated, as to have
demanded intelligibly a Reinforcement of Liquor, the

whole Assembly had been by this time extended under the Table.

THE Celebration of this Night's Solemnity was opened by the obstreperous Joy of Drummers, who, with their Parchment Thunder, gave a Signal for the Appearance of the Mob under their several Classes and Denominations. They were quickly joined by the melodious Clank of Marrow-bone and Cleaver, whilst a Chorus of Bells filled up the Consort. A Pyramid of Stack-Faggots cheared the Hearts of the Populace with the Promise of a Blaze: The Guns had

no sooner uttered the Prologue, but the Heavens were brightned with artificial Meteors, and Stars of our own

making; and all the High-streets lighted up from one End to another, with a Galaxy of Candles. We col.

lected a Largess for the Multitude, who tippled Eleemo fynary till they grew exceeding Vociferous. There
 was a Paste-board Pontiff with a little swarthy Dæmon

at his Elbow, who, by his diabolical Whispers and Infinuations tempted his Holiness into the Fire, and then

· left him to shift for himself. The Mobile were very farcastick with their Clubs, and gave the old Gentleman

farcastick with their Clubs, and gave the old Gentleman feveral Thumps upon his triple Head-piece. Tom Tyler's

Phiz is fomething damaged by the Fall of a Rocket,

which hath almost spoiled the Gnomon of his Countenance. The Mirth of the Commons grew so very

outragious, that it found Work for our Friend of the

Quorum, who, by the Help of his Amanuenfis, took

down all their Names and their Crimes, with a De-

fign to produce his Manuscript at the next Quarter

· Sessions, &c. &c. &c.

I shall subjoin to the foregoing Piece of a Letter, the following Copy of Verses translated from an Italian Poet, who was the Cleveland of his Age, and had Multitudes of Admirers. The Subject is an Accident that happened under the Reign of Pope Leo, when a Firework, that had been prepared upon the Castle of St. Angelo, begun to play before its Time, being kindled by a Flash of Lightning. The Author hath written his Poem in the same kind of Stile, as that I have

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already exemplified in Prose. Every Line in it is a Riddle, and the Reader must be forced to consider it twice or thrice, before he will know that the Cynick's Tenement is a Tub, and Baechus his Cast-coat a Hogshead, &c.

'Iwas Night, and Heav'n, a Cyclops, all the Day, An Argus now did countless Eyes display; In ev'ry Window Rome her Joy declares, All bright, and studded with terrestrial Stars. A blazing Chain of Lights her Roofs entwines, And round her Neck the mingled Lustre shines, The Cynick's rowling Tenement conspires, With Bacchus his Cast-coat, to feed the Fires.

The Pile, still big with undiscover'd Shows, The Tuscan Pile did last its Freight disclose, Where the proud Tops of Rome's new Atna rise, Whence Giants sally, and invade the Skies.

Whilst now the Multitude expect the Time, And their tir'd Eyes the losty Mountain climb, A thousand Iron Mouths their Voices try, And thunder out a dreadful Harmony; In treble Notes the small Artill'ry plays, The deep-mouth'd Cannon bellows in the Bass, The lab'ring Pile now heaves, and having giv'n Proofs of its Travail, sighs in Flames to Heav'n.

The Clouds invelop'd Heav'n from human Sight, Quench'd every Star, and put out ev'ry Light; Now real Thunder grumbles in the Skies, And in disdainful Murmurs Rome desies; Nor doth its answer'd Challenge Rome decline; But whilst both Parties in full Consort join, While Heav'n and Earth in rival Peals resound, The doubtful Cracks the Hearer's Sense confound; Whether the Claps of Thunderbolts they hear, Or else the Burst of Cannon wounds their Ear; Whether Clouds raged by struggling Metals rent, Or struggling Clouds, in Roman Metals pent.

But

But O, my Muse, the whole Adventure tell, As ev'ry Accident in order fell.

Tall Groves of Trees the Hadrian Tow'r surround, Fictitious Trees with Paper Garlands crown'd. These know no Spring, but when their Bodies sprout In Fire, and shoot their gilded Blossoms out; When blazing Leaves appear above their Head, And into branching Flames their Bodies spread, Whilst real Thunder Splits the Firmament, And Heav'n's whole Roof in one wast Cleft is rent, The three-fork'd Tongue amidst the Rupture lolls, Then drops, and on the airy Turret falls. The Trees now kindle, and the Garland burns, And thousand Thunderbolts for one returns: Brigades of burning Archers upwards fly Bright Spears and shining Spear-men mount on high, Flash in the Clouds, and glitter in the Sky. A seven-fold Shield of Spheres doth Heav'n defend, And back again the blunted Weapons send; Unwillingly they fall, and dropping down, Pour out their Souls, their sulph'rous Souls, and grown

With Joy, great Sir, we view'd this pompous Show,
While Heav'n, that fate Spectator still, 'till now, It self turn'd Actor, proud to pleasure you.
And so 'tis sit, when Leo's Fires appear,
That Heav'n it self should turn an Engineer;
That Heav'n it self should all it's Wonders show,
And Orbs above consent with Orbs below.

No. 618

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No. 618. Wednesday, November 10.

— Neque enim concludere versum Dixeris esse satis: neque siquis scribat, uti nos, Sermoni propriora, putes bunc esse Poetam. Hor.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

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v, (

70U having in your two last Spectators, given the Town a couple of remarkable Letters in very different Styles: I take this Opportunity to offer to you some Remarks upon the Epiffolary way of Writing in Verse. This is a Species of Poetry by it felf; and has not fo much as been hinted at in any of the Arts of Poetry, that have ever fallen into my Hands: Neither has it in any Age, or any Nation, been fo much cultivated, as the other feveral ' Kinds of Poefie. A Man of Genius may, if he pleafes, write Letters in Verse upon all manner of Subjects, ' that are capable of being embellished with Wit and 'Language, and may render them new and agreeable by giving the proper Turn to them. But in speaking, at present, of Epistolary Poetry, I would be understood to mean only such Writings in this Kind, as ' have been in Use amongst the Ancients, and have been copied from them by some Moderns. These may be ' reduced into two Classes: In the one I shall range Love-Letters, Letters of Friendship, and Letters upon mournful Occasions: In the other I shall place ' fuch Epistles in Verse, as may properly be called Fa-' miliar, Critical, and Moral; to which may be added Letters of Mirth, and Humour. Ovid for the first, ' and Horace for the latter, are the best Originals we ' have left.

'HE that is ambitious of succeeding in the Ovidian
way, should first examine his Heart well, and feel
whether his Passions (especially those of the gentler
Kind)

Kind) play easy, since it is not his Wit, but the Delicacy and Tenderness of his Sentiments, that will affect his Readers. His Versification likewise should be soft, and all his Numbers slowing and querelous.

THE Qualifications requisite for writing Epistles, after the Model given us by Horace, are of a quite dif. e ferent Nature. He that would excel in this Kind must have a good Fund of strong Masculine Sense: · To this there must be joined a thorough Knowledge of Mankind, together with an Infight into the Buf. ness, and the prevailing Humours of the Age. Our Author must have his Mind well seasoned with the finest Precepts of Morality, and be filled with nice · Reflections upon the bright and the dark Sides of human Life: He must be a Master of refined Raillery, and understand the Delicacies, as well as the Absurdities of Conversation. He must have a lively Tun of Wit, with an easy and concise manner of Expression: Every Thing he says, must be in a free and disengaged manner. He must be guilty of nothing that betrays the Air of a Recluse, but appear a Man of the World throughout. His Illustrations, his " Comparisons, and the greatest Part of his Images mut be drawn from common Life. Strokes of Satyr and · Criticism, as well as Panegyrick, judiciously thrown in (and as it were by the by) give a wonderful life and Ornament to Compositions of this Kind. But let our Poet while he writes Epistles, though never fo familiar, still remember that he writes in Verle, and must for that Reason have a more than ordinary Care not to fall into Profe, and a vulgar Diction, excepting where the Nature and Humour of the Thing doth necessarily require it. In this Point He race hath been thought by some Criticks to be some times careless, as well as too negligent of his Verfification; of which he feems to have been fensible himself.

* ALL I have to add is, that both these Manners of Writing may be made as entertaining, in their Way, as any other Species of Poetry, if undertaken by Personal Property.

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I shall add an Observation or two to the Remarks of my ingenious Corrrespondent, and, in the first Place, take Notice, that Subjects of the most sublime Nature, are often treated in the Epistolary way with Advantage, as in the samous Epistle of Horace to Augustus. The Poet surprizes us with his Pomp, and seems rather betrayed into his Subject, than to have aimed at it by Defign: He appears like the Visit of a King Incognito, with a Mixture of Familiarity, and Grandeur. In Works of this Kind, when the Dignity of the Subject hurries the Poet into Descriptions and Sentiments, seemingly unpremeditated, by a Sort of Inspiration; it is usual for him to recollect himself, and fall back gracefully into the natural Style of a Letter.

I might here mention an Epistolary Poem, just published by Mr. Eusden on the King's Accession to the Throne: Wherein, amongst many other noble and beautiful Strokes of Poetry, his Reader may see this Rule

very happily observed.

No.619. Friday, November 12.

- dura

Exerce imperia, & ramos compesce fluentes. Virg.

Have often thought, that if the several Letters, which are written to me under the Character of Spectator, and which I have not made use of were published in a Volume, they would not be an unnertaining Collection. The Variety of the Subjects, tyle, Sentiments, and Informations, which are transmitted to me, would lead a very curious, or very idle leader, insensibly along, through a great many Pages. know some Authors, who would pick up a Secret History

History out of such Materials, and make a Bookseller an Alderman by the Copy. I shall therefore carefully preferve the original Papers in a Room set apart for that Purpose, to the End that they may be of Service to Posterity; but shall at present content myself, with owning the Receipt of several Letters, lately come to my Hands, the Authors whereof are impatient for an Answer.

CHARISSA, whose Letter is dated from Cornbill, desires to be eased in some Scruples relating to the Skill of Astrologers. Referred to the Dumb Man for an

Answer.

J. C. who proposes a Love-Case, as he calls it, to the Love-Casuist, is hereby desir'd to speak of it to the Minister of the Parish; it being a Case of Conscience.

THE poor young Lady, whose Letter is dated Other 26, who complains of a harsh Guardian, and an unkind Brother, can only have my good Wishes, unless the pleases to be more particular.

THE Petition of a certain Gentleman, whose Name I have forgot, famous for renewing the Curls of decay'd Perriwigs, is referred to the Censor of small Wares.

THE Remonstrance of T. C. against the Profanation of the Sabbath by Barbers, Shoe-cleaners, &c. had better be offer'd to the Society of Reformers.

A learned and laborious Treatife upon the Art of

Fencing, returned to the Author.

To the Gentleman of Oxford, who defires me to infert a Copy of Latin Verses, which were denied a Place in the University Books. Answer, Nonumque prematu in annum.

To my learned Correspondent who writes against Masters Gowns, and Poke Sleeves, with a Word in Defence of large Scarves. Answer. I resolve not to raise

Animosities among st the Clergy.

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To the Lady, who writes with Rage against one of her own Sex, upon the Account of Party Warmth. And sweet. Is not the Lady she writes against reckoned Hand some.

No.62
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No. 620.

Hic Vir, bic

HAVIN Copy of here co f the true: he judicious Work of a M n the Prospec

the Author

I defire Tom Truelove (who fends me a Sonnet upon his Mistress, with a Defire to print it immediately) to consider that it is long fince I was in Love.

I shall answer a very profound Letter from my eld Friend the Upholsterer, who is still inquisitive whether the King of Sweden be living or dead, by whispering him in the Ear, That I believe he is alive.

LET Mr. Dapperwit consider, What is that long Sto-

ry of the Cuckoldom to me?

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s. anation At the earnest Desire of Monimia's Lover, who declares himself very penitent, he is recorded in my Paper by the Name of the faithful Castalio.

THE Petition of Charles Cockfure, which the Petiti-

oner styles very reasonable __ Rejected.

THE Memorial of Philander, which he defires may be dispatched out of Hand, Postponed.

I desire S. R. not to repeat the Expression under the Sun

fo often in his next Letter.

THE Letter of P. S. who desires either to have it printed entire, or committed to the Flames. Not to be printed entire.

No. 620. Monday, November 15.

Hic Vir, bic est, tibi quem promitti sepius audis. Virg.

AVING lately presented my Reader with a Copy of Verses sull of the salse Sublime, I shall here communicate to him an excellent Specimen the true: Though it hath not been yet published, he judicious Reader will readily discern it to be the Work of a Master: And if he hath read that noble Poem in the Prospect of Peace, he will not be at a Loss to guest the Author.

The ROYAL PROGRESS.

WHEN BRUNSWICK first appear'd, each bond Heart Intent on Verfe, disdain'd the Rules of Art; For him the Songfters, in unmeasur'd Odes, Debas'd Alcides, and dethron'd the Gods, In golden Chains the Kings of India led, Or rent the Turban from the Sultan's Head. One, in old Fables, and the Pagan Strain, With Nymphs and Tritons, wasts him o'er the Main; Another draws fierce Lucifer in Arms, And fills th' infernal Region with Alarms; A third awakes some Druid, to foretel Each future Triumph from his dreary Cell. Exploded Fancies! that in vain deceive, While the Mind nauseates what she can't believe. My Muse th' expected Hero shall pursue From Clime to Clime, and keep him still in View: His shining March describe in faithful Lays, Content to paint bim, nor presume to praise; Their Charms, if Charms they have, the Truth Supplies, And from the Theme unlabour'd Beauties rife.

By longing Nations for the Throne design'd, And call'd to guard the Rights of Human-kind; With fecret Grief his God-like Soul repines, And Britain's Crown with joyless Lustre shines, While Pray'rs and Tears his destin'd Progress stay, And Crowds of Mourners choak their Sovereign's Way; Not so be march'd, when hostile Squadrons stood, In Scenes of Death, and fir'd bis generous Blood; When his hot Courser paw'd th' Hungarian Plain, And adverse Legions flood the Shock in vain. His Frontiers past, the Belgian Bounds he views, And cross the level Fields his March pursues. Here pleas'd the Land of Freedom to survey, He greatly scorns the Thirst of boundless Sway. O'er the thin Soil, with filent Joy he spies Transplanted Woods, and borrow'd Verdure rise;

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Still is it Hail Albion Before the W Till Thames

Vol. VI

Where every Meadow won with Toil and Blood, From baughty Tyrants, and the raging Flood, With Fruits and Flowers the careful Hind supplies, And cloaths the Marshes in a rich Disguise. Such Wealth for frugal Hands doth Heaven decree, And such thy Gifts, celestial Liberty!

Through stately Towns, and many a fertile Plain, The Fomp advances to the neighbouring Main. Whole Nations crowd around with joyful Gries, and view the Hero with insatiate Eyes.

In Haga's Towers he waits, 'till Eastern Gales
Propitious rife to savell the British Sails.
Hither the Fame of England's Monarch brings
The Vows and Friendships of the neighb'ring Kings;
Mature in Wisdom, his extensive Mind
Takes in the blended Int'rests of Mankind,
The World's great Patriot. Calm thy anxious Breast,
Secure in him, O Europe, take thy Rest;
Henceforth thy Kingdoms shall remain consin'd
By Rocks or Streams, the Mounds which Heav'n design'd;
The Alps their new made Monarch shall restrain,
Norshall thy Hills, Pirene, rise in wain.

But see! to Britain's Isle the Squadrons stand,
And leave the sinking Towers, and lessening Land.
The Royal Bark bounds o'er the floating Plain,
Breaks thro' the Billows, and divides the Main.
O'er the wast Decep, Great Monarch, dart thine Eyes,
A watry Prospect bounded by the Skies:
Ten thousand Vessels, from ten thousand Shores.
Bring Gums and Gold, and either India's Stores:
Behold the Tributes hastening to thy Throne,
And see the wide Horison all thy own.

Still is it thine; the now the cheerful Crew Hail Albion's Cliffs, just whitening to the View. Before the Wind with swelling Sails they ride, Till Thames receives them in his opening Tide.

Vol. VIII.

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Tain;

The Monarch hears the thundering Peals around, From trembling Woods and echoing Hills rebound, Nor misses yet, amid the deafening Train, The Roarings of the hoarse-resounding Main.

As in the Flood he sails, from either Side
He views his Kingdom in its Rural Pride;
A various Scene the wide-spread Landskip yields:
O'er rich Enclosures and luxuriant Fields:
A lowing Herd each fertile Pasture fills,
And distant Flocks stray o'er a thousand Hills.
Fair Greenwich hid in Woods with new Delight,
(Shade above Shade) now rises to the Sight:
His Woods ordain'd to visit every Shore,
And guard the Island which they grac'd before.

The Sun now rowling down the Western Way, A Blaze of Fires renews the fading Day; Unnumber'd Barks the Regal Barge unfold, Brightening the Twilight with its beamy Gold; Less thick the finny Shoals, a countless Fry, Before the Whale or kingly Dolphin sty. In one wast Shout he seeks the crowded Strand, And in a Peal of Thunder gains the Land.

Welcome, great Stranger, to our longing Eyes,
Oh! King desir'd, adopted Albion cries.
For thee the East breath'd out a prosprous Breeze,
Bright were the Suns, and gently swell'd the Seas.
Thy Presence did each doubtful Heart compose,
And Factions wonder'd that they once were Foes;
That joyful Day they lost each hostile Name,
The same their Aspect and their Voice the same.

So two fair Twins, whose Features were design'd At one soft Moment in the Mother's Mind, Shew each the other with reflected Grace, And the same Beauties bloom in either Face; The puzzled Strangers which is which enquire: Delusion grateful to the Smiling Sire. From to By the new Proud Ton O'er That And a way A floating A Line of Britannia's Before the Far as the A bright

So haply A Comet a From East And half

Now to He plans B Resumes th Rewards t Whom Shall Select, to b Thee, Hali O Man app Her Coin (By thee in 1 An arduous And thy ow O! form'd Mix Wit w Tho' call'd ! To smile on . for this thy And envy le

* Mr.

From that fair * Hill, where hoary Sages boaft To name the Stars, and count the heavenly Hoft, By the next Dawn doth great Augusta rise, Proud Town! the noblest Scene beneath the Skies. O'er Thames her thousand Spires their Lustre shed, And a wast Nawy hides his ample Bed, A floating Forest. From the distant Strand A Line of golden Carrs strikes o'er the Land: Britannia's Peers in Pomp and rich Array, Before their King, triumphant, led the Way, Far as the Eye can reach, the gawdy Train, A bright Procession, shines along the Plain.

So haply through the Heav'n's wide pathless Ways A Comet draws a long-extended Blaze; From East to West burns through th' ethereal Frame, And half Heav'n's Convex glitters thro' the Flame.

Now to the Regal Towers securely brought, He plans Britannia's Glories in his Thought; Resumes the delegated Pow'r he gave, Rewards the Faithful, and restores the Brave, Whom shall the Muse from out the shining Throng Select, to beighten and adorn her Song? Thee, Halifax. To thy capacious Mind, O Man approv'd, is Britain's Wealth confign'd. Her Coin (while Nassau fought) debas'd and rude, By thee in Beauty and in Truth renew'd, An arduous Work! again thy Charge ave fee, And thy own Care once more returns to thee. O! form'd in every Scene to awe and please, Mix Wit with Pomp, and Dignity with Ease: The call'd to shine aloft, thou will not scorn To smile on Arts thy self did once adorn: for this thy Name succeeding Time shall praise, And envy less thy Garter, than thy Bays.

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520.

^{*} Mr. Flamsted's House.

The Muse, if sir'd with thy enlivening Beams,
Perhaps shall aim at more exalted Themes,
Record our Monarch in a nobler Strain,
And sing the opening Wonders of his Reign;
Bright Carolina's heavenly Beauties trace,
Her valiant Consort, and his blooming Race.
A Train of Kings their fruitful Love supplies,
A glorious Scene to Albion's ravish'd Eyes;
Who sees by Brunswick's Handher Sceptre swayd,
And through his Line from Age to Age convey'd.

No. 621. Wednesday, November 17.

Implevit, siellasque vagas miratur & Asra Fixa Polis, vidit quanta sub nocte jaceret Nostra dies, risitque sui ludibria.

Lucan.

THE following Letter having in it some Observathons out of the common Road, I shall make it the Entertainment of this Day.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

HE common Topicks against the Pride of Ma
which are laboured by florid and declamatory
Writers, are taken from the Easeness of his Original, the
Imperfections of his Nature, or the short Duration of
those Goods in which he makes his Boast. Though
it be true that we can have nothing in us that ought

to raise our Vanity, yet a Consciousness of our out Merit may be sometimes laudable. The Folly them

fore lies here: We are apt to pride our selves in worth less, or perhaps shameful Things; and, on the other

hand, count that difgraceful which is our truck Glory.

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HENCE it is, that the Lovers of Praise take wrong · Measures to attain it. Would a vain Man consult his own Heart, he would find, that if others knew his · Weaknesses as well as he himself doth, he could not have the Impudence to expect the publick Efteem. · Pride therefore flows from want of Reflection, and Ignorance of our felves. Knowledge and Humility come upon us together.

· The proper way to make an Estimate of our selves, is to confider feriously what it is we value or despite in others. A Man who boafts of the Goods of Fortune. a gay Dress or a new Title, is generally the Mark of · Ridicule. We ought therefore not to admire in our felves, what we are so ready to laugh at in other Men. · Much less can we with Reason pride our selves in those Things which at some Time of our Life we ' shall certainly despise. And yet, if we will give our ' felves the Trouble of looking backward and forward on the feveral Changes, which we have already undergone and hereafter must try, we shall find that the greater Degrees of our Knowledge and Wisdom, serve

only to shew us our own Imperfections.

' As we rife from Childhood to Youth, we look with ' Contempt on the Toys and Trifles which our Hearts ' have hitherto been fet upon. When we advance to ' Manhood we are held wife in proportion to our Shame 'and regret for the Rashness and Extravagance of ' Youth. Old Age fills us with mortifying Reflections ' upon a Life mil spent in the Pursuit of anxious Wealth or uncertain Honour. Agreeable to this Gradation of 'Thought in this Life, it may be reasonably supposed, that in a future State, the Wisdom, the Experience, and the Maxims of old Age, will be looked upon by a feparate Spirit in much the same Light, as an antient ' Man now fees the little Follies and Toyings of Infants. 'The Pomps, the Honours, the Policies, and Arts of 'mortal Men, will be thought as trifling as Hobby-' Horses, Mock Battles, or any other Sports that now 'employ all the Cunning, and Strength, and Ambition of rational Beings from four Years old to nine or ten.

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'IF the Notion of a gradual Rife in Beings, from the meanest to the most High, be not a vain Imagination, it is not improbable that an Angel looks down upon a

Man, as a Man doth upon a Creature which approaches the nearest to the rational Nature. By the same Rule sif

I may indulge my Fancy in this Particular) a superior

Brute looks with a kind of Pride on one of an inferior Species. If they could reflect, we might imagine from

the Gestures of some of them, that they think them felves the Sovereigns of the World, and that all Things

were made for them. Such a Thought would not be more absurd in Brute Creatures, than one which Men

are apt to entertain, namely, That all the Stars in the

Firmament were created only to please their Eyes and

amuse their Imaginations. Mr. Dryden in his Fable of the Cock and the Fox, makes a Speech for his Hero

the Cock, which is a pretty Instance for this Purpose,

Then turning, said to Partlet, See my Dear, How lavish Nature hath adorn'd the Year; How the pale Primrose and the Violet spring, And Birds essay their Throats, disus'd to sing: All these are ours, and I with Pleasure see Man strutting on two Legs, and aping me.

WHAT I would observe from the Whole is this,
That we ought to value ourselves upon those Things

only which superior Beings think valuable, fince that

is the only way for us not to fink in our own Esteem

hereafter.

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No. 622. Friday, November 19.

Fallentis Semita Vitæ.

Hor.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

IN a former Speculation you have observed, that true Greatness doth not consist in that Pomp and Noise wherein the Generality of Mankind are apt to place it. You have there taken Notice, that Virtue in Obscurity often appears more illustrious in the Eye of superior Beings, than all that passes for Grandeur

' and Magnificence among Men.

WHEN we look back upon the History of those ' who have born the Parts of Kings, Statesmen, or 'Commanders, they appear to us stripped of those out fide Ornaments that dazzle their Contempora-' ries; and we regard their Persons as great or little, 'in Proportion to the Eminence of their Virtues or ' Vices. The wife Sayings, generous Sentiments, or 'difinterested Conduct of a Philosopher under mean ' Circumstances of Life, set him higher in our Esteem ' than the mighty Potentates of the Earth, when we ' view them both through the long Prospect of many ' Ages. Were the Memoirs of an obscure Man, who ' lived up to the Dignity of his Nature, and according to the Rules of Virtue, to be laid before us, we should ' find nothing in fuch a Character which might not fet 'him on a Level with Men of the highest Stations. 'The following Extract out of the private Papers of 'an honest Country-Gentleman will set this Matter 'in a clear Light. Your Reader will perhaps con-'ceive a greater Idea of him from these Actions done in Secret, and without a Witness, than of those which have drawn upon them the Admiration of Multitudes.

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"In my 22d Year I found a violent Affection for my Coufin Charles's Wife growing upon me, wherein I

" was in danger of succeeding, if I had not upon that "Account begun my Travels into foreign Countries."

"A little after my return into England, at a private "Meeting with my Uncle Francis, I refused the Offer

" of his Effate, and prevailed upon him not to difinherit

" his Son Ned.

" Mem. NEVER to tell this to Ned, lest he should think hardly of his deceased Father; though he con-

" tinues to speak ill of me for this very Reason.

"PREVENTED a scandalous Law-suit betwixt my "Nephew Harry and his Mother, by allowing her

" under-hand, out of my own Pocket, so much Mo.

" ney yearly as the Dispute was about.

"PROCURED a Benefice for a young Divine, who is Sifter's Son to the good Man who was my Tutor,

" and hath been dead twenty Years.

"GAVE ten Pounds to poor Mrs. __ my Friend

" H__'s Widow.

" Mem. To retreach one Dish at my Table, till I

" have fetched it up again.

"Mem. To repair my House and finish my Gardens in order to employ poor People after Harvest Time.

"ORDERED John to let out Goedman D____'s

" Sheep that were pounded, by Night: but not to let

" his Fellow Servants know it.

"PREVAILED upon M. T. Esq; not to take the Law of the Farmer's Son for shooting a Partridge,

" and to give him his Gun again.

" PAID the Apothecary for curing an old Woman

" that confessed herself a Witch,

"GAVE away my favourite Dog for biting a Beggar.
"MADE the Minister of the Parish, and a Whig

" Justice of one Mind, by putting them upon explaining

" their Notions to one another.

" Mem. To turn off Peter for shooting a Doe while

" fhe was eating Acorns out of his Hand.

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No. 623

Vel pater Pallentes Ante, pui Ille meos, Abfulit:

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"WHEN my Neighbour John, who hath often injured me, comes to make his Request To-morrow:

" LAID up my Chariot and fold my Horses, to

" relieve the Poor in a Scarcity of Corn.

" In the same Year remitted to my Tenants a Fifth

" Part of their Rents.

"As I was airing to-day, I fell into a Thought that warmed my Heart, and shall, I hope, be the better

" for it as long as I live.

" Mem. To charge my Son in private to erect no " Monument for me; but not to put this in my last Will.

No. 623. Monday, November 22.

Sed mibi wel tellus optem prius ima debiscat, Vel pater omnipotens adigat me fulmine ad u.m. Pallentes umbras Erebi no Temque profundam. Ante, pudor, quam te wiolem aut tua jura resolutille meos, primos qui me sibi junxit, amores Absulit: ille habeat secum, servetque sepulchro.

AM obliged to my Friend, the Love-Casuist, to the following curious Piece of Antiquity, which I shall communicate to the Publick in his own Words.

Mr. SPECTATOR.

You an Account of an ancient Custom, in the Manors of East and West-Enborne, in the County of Berks, and elsewhere. If a Customary Tenant die, the Widow shall have what the Law calls her Free-Bench in all his Copy-hold Lands, dum sola & casta surit, that is, while she lives single and chaste; but if she commits Incontinency, she forfeits her Estate: Yet if she will come

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into the Court riding backward upon a Black Ram, with his Tail in her Hand, and say the Words following, the Steward is bound by the Custom to re-admit her to her Free-Bench.

Here I am,
Riding upon a Black Ram,
Like a Whore as I am;
And, for my Crincum Crancum,
Have lost my Bincum Bancum;
And for my Tail's Game,
Have done this worldly Shame;
Therefore, I pray you Mr. Steward, let me havem
Land again.

ree, that this is the most frail and slippery Te of any in England, I shall tell you, since the ing of that Letter, I have, according to my nise, been at great Pains in searching out the Re of the Black Ram; and have at last met with rocceedings of the Court-Baron, held in that Be for the Space of a whole Day. The Record, that a strict Inquisition having been made into Right of the Tenants to their several Estates, by rasty old Steward, he found that many of the Land of the Manor were, by default of the several Widows, forseited to the Lord, and accordingly would have so

forfeited to the Lord, and accordingly would have enter'd on the Premises: Upon which the good Woman

demanded the Benefit of the Ram. The Steward, after having perused their several Pleas, adjourn'd the Court

to Barnaby-bright, that they might have Day enough before them.

THE Court being fet, and filled with a great Comcourse of People, who came from all Parts to see the

Solemnity, the first who entered was the Widow Fronth,

who had made her Appearance in the last Year's G

valcade. The Register observes, that finding it a easy Pad-Ram, and foreseeing she might have further

Occasion for it, she purchased it of the Steward.

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MRS. Sarab Dainty, Reliet of Mr. John Dainty, ' (who was the greatest Prude in the Parish) came next in the Procession. She at first made some Difficulty of taking the Tail in her Hand; and was observed in pronouncing the Form of Penance, to foften the ' two most emphatical Words into Clincum Clancum: But the Steward took care to make her speak plain · English, before he would let her have her Land again. THE third Widow that was brought to this worldly Shame, being mounted upon a vicious Ram, had the 'Misfortune to be thrown by him; upon which she hoped to be excused from going through the rest of the ' Ceremony: But the Steward being well versed in the Law, observed very wifely upon this Occasion, that the breaking of the Rope does not hinder the Execution of the Criminal.

THE fourth Lady upon Record was the Widow Ogle, a famous Coquette, who had kept half a Score young Fellows off and on for the Space of two Years. but having been more kind to her Carter John, she was introduced with the Huzza's of all her Lovers about her.

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'Mrs. Sable appearing in her Weeds, which were very new and fresh, and of the same Colour with her whimfical Palfrey, made a very decent Figure in the Solemnity.

'ANOTHER, who had been fummoned to make her Appearance, was excused by the Steward, as well knowing in his Heart, that the good Squire himself

had qualified her for the Ram.

'MRs. Quick having nothing to object against the Indictment, pleaded her Belly. But it was remembred that she made the same Excuse the Year before. Upon which the Steward observ'd, that she might so contrive it, as never to do the Service of the Manor. 'THE Widow Fidget being cited into Court, infified that she had done no more fince the Death of her

Husband, than what she used to do in his Life time; and withal defir'd Mr. Steward to confider his own Wife's Case, if he should chance to die before her.

Mas

The SPECTATOR. No. 624. 240

THE next in order was a Dowager of a very cor. pulent Make, who would have been excused as not

finding any Ram that was able to carry her; upon " which the Steward commuted her Punishment, and

ordered her to make her Entry upon a black Ox.

· THE Widow Maskruell, a Woman who had long · lived with a most unblemished Character, having turn-

ed off her old Chamber-maid in a Pet, was by that revengeful Creature brought in upon the black Ram

Nine Times the same Day.

"SEVERAL Widows of the Neighbourhood, be-' ing brought upon their Tryal, they shewed that they

· did not hold of the Manor, and were discharged ac-

cordingly.

' A pretty young Creature who closed the Procession,

came ambling in, with fo bewitching an Air, that the . Steward was observed to cast a Sheep's Eye upon her,

and married her within a Month after the Death of

his Wife.

. N. B. Mrs Touchwood appeared according to Summons, but had nothing laid to her Charge; having

' liv'd irreproachably fince the Decease of her Husband,

" who left her a Widow in the Sixty-ninth Year of her · Age.

Iam, SIR, &c.



No. 624. Wednesday, November 24.

Audire atque togam jubeo componere, quisquis, Ambitione mala, aut argenti pallet amore Quisquis luxuria -

Hor.

ANKIND is divided into two Parts, the Bufy and the Idle. The Bufy World my be divided into the Virtuous and the Vicious. The Vicious again into the Covetous, the Ambitious, and the Senfual. The idle Part of Mankind are in a State

No. State engag place to fuc End. nor t but ru be bu take t worth them ferabl

either other fure. Ambi tues; ges M and A willin be rev it as 1 appea to be

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State inferior to any one of these. All the other are engag'd in the Pursuit of Happiness, though often mifplaced, and are therefore more likely to be attentive to such Means, as shall be proposed to them for that End. The Idle, who are neither wife for this World. nor the next, are emphatically called by Dr. Tillotson, Fools at large. They propose to themselves no End. but run adrift with every Wind. Advice therefore would be but thrown away upon them, fince they would scarce take the Pains to read it. I shall not fatigue any of this worthless Tribe with a long Harangue; but will leave them with this short Saying of Plato, that Labour is pre-

ferable to Idleness, as Brightness to Rust.

THE Pursuits of the Active Part of Mankind, are either in the Paths of Religion and Virtue; or, on the other Hand, in the Roads to Wealth, Honours or Pleafure. I shall therefore compare the Pursuits of Avarice. Ambition and fenfual Delight, with their opposite Virtues; and shall consider waich of these Principles engages Men in a Course of the greatest Labour, Suffering and Affiduity. Most Men, in their cool Reasonings, are willing to allow that a Course of Virtue will in the End be rewarded the most amply; but represent the Way to it as rugged and narrow. If therefore it can be made appear, that Men struggle through as many Troubles to be miserable, as they do to be happy, my Readers may perhaps be persuaded to be good, when they find they shall lose nothing by it.

FIRST, for Avarice. The Miser is more indufirious than the Saint : The Pains of getting, the Fears of losing, and the Inability of enjoying his Wealth, have been the Mark of Satyr in all Ages. Repentance upon his Neglect of a good Bargain, his Sorrow for being over-reached, his Hope of improving a Sum, and his Fear of falling into Want, directed to their proper Objects; they would make fo many different Christian Graces and Virtues. He may apply to kimself a great Part of St. Paul's Catalogue of Sufferings. In journeying often; in Perils of Water, in Perils of Robbers, in Perils among false Brethren. In Weariness and Painfulness in Watching often, in Hunger and Thirst, in Fastings often, — At how much less Expence might he lay up to himself Treasures in Heaven; or if I may, in this Place, be allowed to add the Saying of a great Philosopher, he may provide such Possessions, as fear neither

Arms, nor Men, nor Jove bimself.

In the second Place, if we look upon the Toils of Ambition, in the fame Light as we have confider'd those of Avarice, we shall readily own that far less Trouble is requifite to gain lafting Glory, than the Power and Reputation of a few Years; or in other Words, we may with more Ease deserve Honour, than obtain it. The Ambitious Man should remember Cardinal Woolfey's Com. plaint. ' Had I ferved God, with the same Application, wherewith I ferv'd my King, he would not have forsaken me in my old Age.' The Cardinal here softens his Ambition, by the spacious Pretence of ferving his King: Whereas his Words, in the proper Construction, imply, that if instead of being acted by Ambition, he had been acted by Religion, he should have now felt the Comforts of it, when the whole World turn'd its Back upon him.

Thirdly, LET us compare the Pains of the Senfual, with those of the Virtuous, and see which are heavier in the Ballance. It may feem strange, at the first View, that the Men of Pleasure should be advised to change their Course because they lead a painful Life. Yet when we see them so active and vigilant in quest of Delight; under so many Disquiets, and the Sport of such various Passions; let them answer, as they can, if the Pains they undergo, do not outweigh their Enjoyments. The Infidelities on the one Part between the two Sexes, and the Caprices on the other, the Debasement of Reason, the Pangs of Expectation, the Disappointments in Posfession, the Stings of Remorfe, the Vanities and Vexations attending even the most refined De ights that make up this Business of Life, render it so filly and uncomfortable, that no Man is thought wife till he hath got over it, or happy, but in proportion as he hath cleared him-

felf from it.

THE Sum of all is this. Man is made an active Being. Whether he walks in the Paths of Virtue or Vice,

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Mr.
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No. 625. The SPECTATOR. 243
he is fure to meet with many Difficulties to prove his
Patience, and excite his Industry. The same if not
greater Labour, is required in the Service of Vice and
Folly, as of Virtue and Wisdom: and he hath this easy
Choice left him, whether with the Strength he is Master
of, he will purchase Happiness or Repentance.

MANARA BENERAL BENERA BENERA BENERA BENERAL BENERA BENERA BENERAL BENERA BENERA BENERA BENERA BENERA BENERA BE

No. 625. Friday, November 26.

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Hor.

THE Love Casuist hath referred to me the following Letter of Queries, with his Answers to each Question, for my Approbation. I have accordingly confider'd the several Matters therein contained, and hereby confirm and ratify his Answers, and require the gentle Querist to conform herself thereunto.

SIR, I Was thirteen the Ninth of November last, and must now begin to think of settling myself in the World, and fo I would humbly beg your Advice, ' what I must do with Mr. Fondle, who makes his Ad-' dresses to me. He is a very pretty Man, and hath the blackest Eyes and whitest Teeth you ever faw. Though ' he is but a younger Brother, he dreffes like a Man of ' Quality, and no Body comes into a Room like him. ' I know he hath refused great Offers, and if he canonot marry me, he will never have any Body elfe. But ' my Father hath forbid him the House, because he fent me a Copy of Verses; for he is one of the greatest Wits in Town. My eldest Sister, who, with her ' good Will, would call me M's as long as I live, must ' be married before me, they fay. She tells them, that " Mr. Fondle make a Fool of me, and will spoil the Child, as she calls me, like a consident Thing as she is.

In

No. 625. The SPECTATOR. 244 In fhort, I am refolved to marry Mr. Fondle, if it be

but to fpite her. But because I would do nothing that

is imprudent, I beg of you to give me your Answers to fome Questions I will write down, and defire you to

get them printed in the SPECTATOR, and I do not

doubt but you will give such Advice, as, I am sure, I

" shall follow.

WHEN Mr. Fondle looks upon me for half an Hour together, and calls me Angel, is he not in Love?

Answer, No.

MAY not I be certain he will be a kind Huf. band, that has promised me half my Portion in Pinmoney, and to keep me a Coach and Six in the Bargain ?

No.

· WHETHER I, who have been acquainted with him this whole Year almost, am not a better Judge of his Merit, than my Father and Mother, who never

heard him talk, but at Table?

No.

· WHETHER I am not old enough to chuse for my felf ?

No.

WHETHER it would not have been rude in me to refuse a Lock of his Hair?

No.

· Shou'd not I be a very barbarous Creature, if I did not pity a Man that is always Sighing for my Sake?

No.

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Mr. SE

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Court fre to know WHETHER you would not advise me to run a-way with the poor Man?

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HER

WHETHER you do not think, that if I won't have him, he won't drown himself?

No.

WHAT shall I say to him the next time he asks me if I will marry him?

No.

THE following Letter requires neither Introduction, nor Answer.

Mr. SPECTATOR.

' I Wonder that, in the present Situation of Affairs, L you can take Pleasure in writing any thing but ' News; for, in a Word, who minds any thing else? 'The Pleasure of increasing in Knowledge, and learn-'ing fomething new in every Hour of Life, is the no-'bleft Entertainment of a rational Creature, I have 'a very good Ear for a Secret, and am naturally of a 'communicative Temper; by which Means I am ca-' pable of doing you great Services in this way. In order to make my felf useful, I am early in the Anti-'chamber, where I thrust my Head into the thick of ' the Press, and catch the News, at the opening of the Door, while it is warm. Sometimes I stand by the Beef-Eaters, and take the Buz as it passes by me. At other times I lay my Ear close to the Wall, and ' fuck in many a valuable Whisper, as it runs in a ' streight Line from Corner to Corner. When I am weary with standing, I repair to one of the neighbouring Coffee-houses, where I sit sometimes for a whole Day, and have the News as it comes from Court fresh and fresh. In short, Sir, I spare no Pains to know how the World goes. A Piece of News

loses its Flavour, when it hath been an Hour in the Air. I love, if I may so speak, to have it fresh from the Tree; and to convey it to my Friends before it is faded. Accordingly my Expences in Coach-hire make no small Article; which you may believe, when I affure you that I post away from Coffee-house to * Coffee-house, and forestal the Evening-Post by two Hours. There is a certain Gentleman, who hath given me the Slip twice or thrice, and hath been before-hand with me at Child's. But I have play'd him a Trick. I have purchas'd a Pair of the best Coach-horses I could buy for Money, and now let him out-strip me if he can. Once more, Mr. SPECTATOR, let me advise you to deal in News. You may depend upon my Affistance. But I must break off abruptly, for I have twenty Letters to write.

Yours in bafte,

Tho. Quid nunc.

No. 626. Monday, November 29.

Dulcique animos novitate tenebo. Ov. Met. l. 1.

I Have seen a little Work of a learned Man, consisting of extemporary Speculations, which owed their Birth to the most trisling Occurrences of Life. His usual Method was, to write down any sudden Start of Thought which arose in his Mind upon the fight of an odd Gesticulation in a Man, any whinsical Mimickry of Reason in a Beast, or whatever appeared remarkable in any Object of the visible Creation. He was able to moralize upon a Snuss-Box, would flourish eloquently upon a Tucker or a Pair of Russles, and draw practical Inferences from a full-bottomed Perriwig. This I thought fit to mention, by way of Excuse, for my ingenious Correspondent,

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Mr. SP

express! ' mine, w exempla s made m " mours fo there wa have be · Force of ' In ev the least their Co · World h 'a most ag any grea · Pleasure wither, tainment may fee him be f Toys, is difturbs 1 or Confir Pleafures ry of an or Ambi city for 1 able Burt for by th believe is have bee the Gust ventitiou

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who hath introduced the following Letter by an Image which, I will beg leave to tell him, is too ridiculous in fo ferious and noble a Speculation.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

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WHEN I have feen young Puss playing her wan-ton Gambols, and with a thousand antick Shapes express her own Gayety at the same time that she moved ' mine, while the old Grannum hath fat by with a most exemplary Gravity, unmov'd at all that pass'd; it hath made me reflect what should be the Occasion of Humours so opposite in two Creatures, between whom there was no visible Difference but that of Age; and I have been able to resolve it into nothing else but the

· Force of Novelty.

' In every Species of Creatures, those who have been the least Time in the World, appear best pleas'd with their Condition: For, besides that to a new Comer the World hath a Freshness on it that strikes the Sense after 'a most agreeable Manner, Being it felf unattended with ' any great Variety of Enjoyments, excites a Sensation of Pleasure. But as Age advances, every thing seems to wither, the Senses are disgusted with their old Entertainments, and Existence turns flat and insipid. may fee this exemplified in Mankind: The Child, let him be free from Pain, and gratified in his Change of Toys, is diverted with the smallest Trisle. disturbs the Mirth of the Boy, but a little Punishment or Confinement. The Youth must have more violent Pleasures to employ his Time; the Man loves the Hurry of an active Life, devoted to the Pursuits of Wealth or Ambition; and lastly, old Age, having lost its Capacity for these Avocations, becomes its own insupportable Burthen. This Variety may be in part accounted for by the Vivacity and Decay of the Faculties; but I believe is chiefly owing to this, That the longer we have been in Possession of Being, the less sensible is the Gust we have of it; and the more it requires of adventitious Amusements to relieve us from the Satiety and Weariness it brings along with it. " AND

" AND as Novelty is of a very powerful, so of a most extensive Influence. Moralists have long fince observed it to be the Source of Admiration which lesfens in proportion to our Familiarity with Objects, and upon a thorough Acquaintance is utterly extinguished. But I think it hath not been so commonly remarked, that all the other Passions depend considerably on the fame Circumstance. What is it but Novelty that awakens Defire, enhances Delight, kindles Anger, provokes Envy, inspires Horror? To this Cause we must afcribe it, that Love languishes with Fruition, and Friendship it self is recommended by Intervals of Ab. fence: Hence Monsters, by Use, are beheld without loathing, and the most enchanting Beauty without Rap. ture. That Emotion of the Spirits in which Paffion confifts, is usually the Effect of Surprize, and as long as it continues, heightens the agreeable or disagreeable Qualities of its Object; but as this Emotion cealer (and it ceases with the Novelty) Things appear in another Light, and affects us even less than might be expected from their proper Energy, for having moved us too much before.

'IT may not be an useless Enquiry how far the Love of Novelty is the unavoidable Growth of Nature, and ' in what Respects it is peculiarly adapted to the present State. To me it seems impossible, that a reasonable " Creature should rest absolutely satisfied in any Acquifitions whatever, without endeavouring farther; for after its highest Improvements, the Mind hath an Idea of an Infinity of Things still behind worth knowing, to the Knowledge of which therefore it cannot be indifferent; as by climbing up a Hill in the midft of a wide Plain a Man hath his Prospect enlarged, and, toe gether with that, the Bounds of his Defires. Upon this Account, I cannot think he detracts from the State of the Blessed, who conceives them to be perpetually employed in fresh Searches into Nature, and to Eternity advancing into the fathomless Depths of the Divine Perfections. In this Thought there is nothing but what doth Honour to these glorified Spirits; provided fill it be remembred, that their Defire of more proNo.6

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Our being thus formed ferves many ufeful Purposes in the present State. It contributes not a little to the Advancement of Learning; for, as Cicero takes ' Notice, That which makes Men willing to undergo the Fatigues of Philosophical Disquisitions, is not so ' much the Greatness of Objects as their Novelty. ' not enough that there is Field and Game for the Chace, 'and that the Understanding is prompted with a rest-' less Thirst of Knowledge, effectually to rouse the Soul, ' funk into a State of Sloth and Indolence; it is also ' necessary that there be an uncommon Pleasure annexed to the first Appearance of Truth in the Mind. This ' Pleasure being exquisite for the Time it lasts, but tran-' fient, it hereby comes to pass that the Mind grows into an Indifference to its former Notions, and passes on after new Discoveries, in hope of repeating the Des light. It is with Knowledge as with Wealth, the Pleasure of which lies more in making endless Addi.

tions, than in taking a Review of our old Store.
There are some Inconveniencies that follow this Tem-

per, if not guarded against, particularly this, that through a too great Eagerness of something new we

are many times impatient of staying long enough up.

on a Question that requires some Time to resolve it;
or, which is worse, perswade ourselves that we are

Masters of the Subject before we are so, only to be at the Liberty of going upon a fresh Scent; in Mr.

· Lock's Words, We see a little, presume a great deal,

and so jump to the Conclusion.

· A farther Advantage of our Inclination for Novelty, as at present circumstantiated, is, that annihilates all the boafted Distinctions among Mankind. up with Envy to those above thee. Sounding Titles, stately Buildings, fine Gardens, gilded Chariots, rich " Equipages, what are they? They dazzle every one but the Possessor: To him that is accustomed to them they " are cheap and regardless Things: They supply him not with brighter Images, or more sublime Satisfactions than the plain Man may have, whose small Estate will just enable him to support the Charge of a simple unencumbered Life. He enters heedless into his Rooms of State, as you or I do under our poor Sheds. The noble Paintings and coftly Furniture are lost on him; he fees them not: As how can it be otherwise, when by Custom, a Fabrick infinitely more grand and finish'd, that of the Universe, stands unobserved by the Inhabitants, and the everlasting Lamps of Heavenare ' lighted up in vain, for any Notice that Mortals take of them? Thanks to indulgent Nature, which not only placed her Children originally upon a Level, but fill, by the Strength of this Principle, in a great Mea-

To add no more, Is not this Fondness of Novelty, which makes us out of Conceit with all we already have, a convincing Proof of a future State? Either

" fure preserves it, in spite of all the Care of Man, to in-

troduce artificial Distinctions.

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ovelty, already Either Man . Man was made in vain, or this is not the only World he was made for: For there cannot be a greater Instance of Vanity, than that to which Man is liable, to be de-· luded from the Cradle to the Grave with fleeting Shadows of Happiness. His Pleasures, and those not con-'fiderable neither, die in the Possession, and fresh En-' joyments do not rife fast enough to fill up half his Life with Satisfaction. When I see Persons fick of them-' felves any longer than they are called away by fomething that is of Force to chain down the present Thought; when I see them hurry from Country to 'Town, and then from the Town back again into the ' Country, continually shifting Postures, and placing Life ' in all the different Lights they can think of; Surely, ' fay I to myself, Life is vain, and the Man beyond Ex-' pression stupid or prejudiced, who from the Vanity of Life ' cannot gather, he is designed for Immortality.



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No. 627. Wednesday, December 1.

Tantum inter densas umbrosa cacumina fagos Assidue veniebat; ibi bæc incondita solus Montibus & Sylvis Audio jactabat inani.

Virg.

HE following Account which same to my Hands fome Time ago, may be no disagreeable Entertain. ment to fuch of my Readers, as have tender Hearts, and nothing to do.

Mr. SPECTATOR. A Friend of mine died of a Fever last Week, which The caught by walking too late in a dewy Evening amongst his Reapers. I must inform you that his greateft Pleasure was in Husbandry and Gardening. He had fome Humours which feemed inconfistent with that good Sense he was otherwise Master of. His Uneafness in the Company of Women was very remarkable in a Man of fuch perfect good Good-breeding, and his avoiding one particular Walk in his Garden, when · he had used to pass the greatest Part of his Time, ni-" fed abundance of idle Conjectures in the Village where he lived. Upon looking over his Papers we found out the Reason, which he never intimated to his neared Friends. He was, it seems, a passionate Lover in his ' Youth, of which a large Parcel of Letters he left be ' hind him are a Witness. I fend you a Copy of the lat he ever wrote upon that Subject, by which you will . find that he concealed the true Name of his Miftre under that of Zelinda.

Long Month's Absence would be insupportable to m A if the Business I am employed in were not for the Service of my Zelinda, and of such a Nature as to plan

No. 62 ber every exactly a for I hav The Apar that which House wh its proper Profpect f I am sure Such Vari

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dreffed up Arbours in me; yet I balf bleft a reded one mise ten th fation. I worn a Pa footbed my Side. I ba this Retire down quit many Expr Conversati the Parish

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for the s to plan ber every Moment in my Mind. I have furnished the House exactly according to your Fancy, or, if you please, my own; for I have long fince learned to like nothing but what you do. The Apartment designed for your Use is so exact a Copy of that which you live in, that I often think my felf in your House when I step into it, but sigh when I find it without its proper Inhabitant. You will have the most delicious Profeed from your Closet-Window that England affords: I am fure I should think it so, if the Landskip that shows such Variety did not at the same time suggest to me the

Greatness of the Space that lies between us.

THE Gardens are laid out very beautifully; I have dreffed up every Hedge in Woodbines, Sprinkled Bowers and Arbours in every Corner, and made a little Paradise round me; yet I am still like the first Man in his Solitude, but balf blest without a Partner in my Happiness. I have direded one Walk to be made for two Persons, where I promise ten thousand Satisfactions to my self in your Conversation. I already take my Evening's Turn in it, and have worn a Path upon the Edge of this little Alley, while I soothed my self with the Thought of your walking by my Side. I have held many imaginary Discourses with you in this Retirement; and when I have been weary have fat down with you in the midst of a Row of Jessamines. The many Expressions of Joy and Rapture Iuse in these filent Conversations bave made me for some Time the Talk of the Parish; but a neighbouring young Fellow, who makes Love to the Farmer's Daughter, hath found me out, and made my Case known to the whole Neighbourhood.

IN planting of the Fruit-Trees I have not forgot the Peach you are so fond of. I have made a Walk of Elms along the River Side, and intend to fow all the Place about it with Cowflips, which I hope you will like as well as that I have heard you talk of by your Father's House in the

Country.

OH! Zelinda, What a Scheme of Delight bave I trawn up in my Imagination! What Day-Dreams do I indulge my self in: When shall the fix Weeks be at an End that lye between me and my promised Happiness?

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254 The SPECTATOR. No. 628.

HOW could you break off so abruptly in your last, and tell me you must go and dress for the Play? If you loved as I do, you would find no more Company in a Crowd, than I have in my Solitude.

I am, &c.

On the Back of this Letter is written, in the Hand of the Deceased, the following Piece of History.

Mem. HAVING waited a whole Week for an Anfwer to this Letter, I burried to Town, where I found the perfidious Creature married to my Rival. I will bear it as becomes a Man, and endeavour to find out Happiness for my self in that Retirement, which I had prepared in vain for a false ungrateful Woman.

I am, &c.



No. 628. Friday, December 3.

Labitur et labetur in omne volubilis ævum. Hor.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

THERE are none of your Speculations which please me more than those upon infinitude and Eternity. You have already considered that

Part of Eternity which is past, and I wish you would give us your Thoughts upon that which is to come.

Your Readers will perhaps receive greater Plafure from this View of Eternity than the former, fine

we have every one of us a Concern in that which is

to come: Whereas a Speculation on that which is put

is rather curious than useful.

BESIDES, we can easily conceive it possible for successive Duration never to have an End; tho, a

you have justly observed, that Eternity which never

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had a Beginning is altogether incomprehenfible; That is, we can conceive an eternal Duration which may be, though we cannot an eternal Duration which bath been; or, if I may use the Philosophical Terms, we may apprehend a Potential though not an Actual Eternity.

THIS Notion of a future Eternity, which is natural to the Mind of Man, is an unaswerable Argument that he is a Being defigned for it; especially if we confider that he is capable of being Virtuous or Vicious here; that he hath Faculties improveable to all Eterinity; and by a proper or wrong Employment of them. may be happy or miserable throughout that infinite Our Idea indeed of this Eternity is not of Duration. an adequate or fixed Nature, but is perpetually growing and enlarging it felf toward the Object, which is too big for human Comprehension. As we are now in · the Beginnings of Existence, so shall we always appear to our felves as if we were for ever entring upon it. 'After a Million or two of Centuries, fome confiderable 'Things, already past, may slip out of our Memory; which, if it be not strengthened in a wonderful Man-' ner, may possibly forget that ever there was a Sun or ' Planets. And yet, notwithstanding the long Race that ' we shall then have run, we shall still imagine our ' selves just starting from the Goal, and find no Pro-' portion between that Space which we know had a ' Beginning, and what we are fure will never have an " End.

'But I shall leave this Subject to your Management, and question not but you will throw it into fuch Lights as shall at once improve and entertain your Reader.

'I have enclos'd fent you a Translation of the Speech of Cato on this Occasion, which hath accidentally fallen into my Hands, and which for Concisencis, Purity, and Elegance of Phrase cannot be sufficiently admired.

No. 62

ACT. V. SCEN. I.

CATO folus.

SIC, sic se babere rem necesse prorsus est Ratione vincis, do lubens manus, Plato. Quid enim dedisset, Quæ dedit frustra nibil, Aternitatis insitam cupidinem
Natura? Quorsum bæc dulcis Expectatio; Vitæque non explenda melioris sitis?
Quid vult sibi aliud iste redeundi in nibil Horror, sub imis quemque agens precordiis?
Cur territa in se resugit anima, cur tremit Attonita, quoties, mortene pereat, timet?
Particula nempe est cuique nascenti indita
Divinior; quæ corpus incolens agit;
Hominique succinit, Tua est Æternitas,
Æternitas! O lubricum nimis aspici,
Mixtumque dulci Gaudium formidine?

Quæ demigrabitur alia binc in corpora? Quæ terra mox incognita? Quis orbis novus Manet incolendus? Quanta erit mutatio? Hac intuenti spatia mibi quaqua patent Immensa: Sed caliginosa nox premit; Nec luce clara vult videri fingula. Figendus bic pes; certa sunt bæc bactenus: Si quod gubernet Numen Humanum genus, (At quod gubernet, effe clamant omnia) Virtute non gaudere certe non potest : Non effe non Beati, qua gaudet, potest. Sed qua Beata sede? Quove in tempore? Hac quanta quanta terra, tota eft Cæfaris. Quid dubius bæret animus usque adeo? Brevi his nodum bic omnem expediet. Arma en induor. Enfi manum admovens. T must Else we This long; Or whence Of falling Back on he Tis the D'Tis Heave And intim Eternity!

Through the wide, But Shado Here will (And that Through a And that But when! I'm weary

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ACT V. SCENE I.

CATO alone, &c.

I T must be so ____ Plato, thou reason'st well____ Else whence this pleasing Hope, this sond Desire, This longing after Immortality? Or whence this secret Dread and inward Horror, Of falling into Nought? Why shrinks the Soul Back on her self, and startles at Destruction? 'Tis the Divinity that stirs within us; 'Tis Heaven it self, that points out an Hereaster, And intimates Eternity to Man.

Eternity! thou pleasing, dreadful Thought!

Through what Variety of untry'd Being,
Through what new Scenes and Changes must we pass!
The wide, th' unbounded Prospect, lyes before me;
But Shadows, Clouds, and Darkness rest upon it.
Here will I hold. If there's a Pow'r above us,
(And that there is all Nature cries aloud
Through all her Works) He must delight in Virtue;
And that which he delights in must be happy.
But when! or where!—This World was made for Cæsar.
I'm weary of Conjectures—This must end 'em.

[Laying bis Hand on bis Sword.

28.

No. 62

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The Soul

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In utramque partem facta ; quæque vim inferant, Et quæ propulsent! Dextera intentat necem; Vitam finistra: Vulnus hæc dabit manus; Alter a medelam vulneril: Hic ad exitum Deaucet, iau simplici ; bæc vetant mori. Secura ridet anima mucronis minas, Ensesque strictos, interire nescia. Extinguet ætas, fidera diuturnior : Ætate languens ipse Sol, obscurius Emittet Orbi consenescenti jubar; Natura et ipfa sentiet quondam vices Atatis, annis ipsa deficiet gravis: At tibi juventus, at tibi immortalitas, Tibi parta Divûm est vita. Periment mutuis Elementa sese, et interibunt ictibus: Tu permanebis sola semper integra, Tu cuncta rerum quaffa, cuncta naufraga, Jam portu in ipso tuta, contemplabere. Compage rupta, corruent in fe invicem, Orbefque fractis ingerentur orbibus; Illæsa tu sedebis extra Fragmina.



No. 628. The SPECTATOR.

259

Thus am I doubly arm'd; my Death and Life, My Bane and Antidote are both before me. This in a Moment brings me to an End; But this informs me I shall never die.

The Soul secur'd in her Existence, smiles At the drawn Dagger and defies its Point, The Stars shall fade away, the Sun himself Grow dim with Age, and Nature sink in Years; But thou shalt flourish in immortal Youth, Unhurt amidst the War of Elements, The Wrecks of Matter and the Crush of Worlds.



528.

No. 629. Monday, December 6.

Quorum Flaminia tegitur cinis atque Latinâ.

Tuy.

EXT to the People who want a Place, there are none to be pitied more than those who are solicited for one. A plain Answer with a Denial in it, is looked upon as Pride, and a civil Answer as a Promise.

Nothing is more ridiculous than the Pretensions of People upon these Occasions. Every Thing a Man hath suffered whilst his Enemies were in play, was certainly brought about by the Malice of the opposite Party. A bad Cause would not have been lost, if such an one had not been upon the Bench; nor a profligate Youth disinherited, if he had not got drunk every Night by toossing an outed Ministry. I remember a Tory, who having been fined in a Court of Justice for a Prank that deserved the Pillory, desir'd upon the Merit of it to be made a Justice of Peace when his Friends came into Power; and shall never forget a Whig Criminal, who, upon being indicted for a Rape, told his Friends, You see what a Man suffers for sticking to his Principles.

THE Truth of it is, the Sufferings of a Man in a Party are of a very doubtful Nature. When they are such as have promoted a good Cause, and fallen upon a Man undeservedly, they have a Right to be heard and recompenced beyond any other Pretensions. But when they rise out of Rashness or Indiscretion, and the Pursuit of such Measures as have rather ruined, than promoted the Interest they aim at, (which hath always been the Case of a great many Sufferers,) they only serve to recommend them to the Children of Violence or Folly.

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I shall rials, wi I recomp No. 629. The SPECTATOR. 261

I have by me a Bundle of Memorials presented by several Cavaliers upon the Restoration of K. Charles II. which may serve as so many Instances, to our present

Purpose.

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AMONG feveral Persons and Pretensions recorded by my Author, he mentions one of a very great Estate, who, for having roasted an Cx whole, and distributed a Hogshead upon K. Charles's Birth-Day, desired to be provided for, as his Majesty in his great Wisdom shall think sit.

ANOTHER put in to be Prince Henry's Governor, for having dared to drink his Health in the worst of Times.

A third petitioned for a Colonel's Commission, for having cursed Oliver Cromwell, the Day before his

Death, on a publick Bowling Green.

But the most whimsical Petition I have met with is that of B. B. Esq; who desir'd the Honour of Knighthood, for having cuckolded 'Sir T. W. a notorious Roundhead.

THERE is likewise the Petition of one, who having let his Beard grow from the Martyrdom of K. Charles the first, till the Restoration of K. Charles the second; desired, in Consideration thereof, to be made

a Privy Councellor.

I must not omit a Memorial setting forth, that the Memorialist had, with great Dispatch, carried a Letter from a certain Lord to a certain Lord, wherein, as it afterwards appeared, Measures were concerted for the Restauration, and without which he verily believes that happy Revolution had never been effected; who therewoon humbly prays to be made Post-Master-General.

A certain Gentleman, who feems to write with a great deal of Spirit, and uses the Words Gallantry and Gentleman-like very often in his Petition, begs that (in Consideration of his having worn his Hat for ten Years past in the loyal Cavalie Cock, to his great Danger and Detriment) he may be made a Captain of the Guards.

I shall close my Account of this Collection of Memorials, with the Copy of one Petition at length, which I recommend to my Reader as a very valuable Piece.

M 5

The Petition of E. H. Efg; bumbly sheweth.

HAT your Petitioner's Father's Brother's Un. cle, Colonel W. H. loft the third Finger of his

· left Hand at Edge-bill Fight.

' THAT your Petitioner, notwithstanding the Small. ness of his Fortune, (he being a younger Brother) al. ways kept Hospitality, and drank Confusion to the Roundheads in half a Score Bumpers every Sunday in the Year, as feveral honest Gentlemen (whose · Names are underwritten) are ready to testify.

' THAT your Petitioner is remarkable in his Country for having dared to treat Sir P. P. a curfed See questrator, and three Members of the Assembly of Di-

vines, with Brawn and Minced Pies upon New Year's

Day.

' THAT your faid humble Petitioner hath been five " Times imprisoned in five several County-Goals, for · having been a Ring-leader in five different Riots; into which his Zeal for the royal Cause hurried him, when . Men of greater Estates had not the Courage to rise.

' THAT, he, the faid E. H. hath had fix Duels and four and twenty Boxing-Matches in Defence of his " Majesty's Title; and that he received such a Blow upon the Head at a Bonfire in Stratford upon Avon, as he hath been never the better for from that Day to this.

'THAT your Petitioner hath been so far from imoroving his Fortune in the late damnable Times, that he verily believes, and hath good Reason to imagine,

that if he had been Master of an Estate, he had infal-

' libly been plundered and sequestred.

· Your Petitioner, in Confideration of his faid Me-* rits and Sufferings, humbly requests that he may have the Place of Receiver of the Taxes, Collector of the " Customs, Clerk of the Peace, Deputy Lieutenant, or

whatsoever else he shall be thought qualified for.

And your Petitioner shall ever pray, &c.

Wednesday

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No.630. Wednesday, December 8.

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Hor.

HAVING no spare Time to write any Thing of my own, or to correct what is sent me by others, I have thought sit to publish the following Letters.

SIR, Oxford, Novemb. 22. I F you would be so kind to me, as to suspend that Satisfaction, which the learned World must receive in reading one of your Speculations, by publishing this Endeavour, you will very much oblige and improve one, who has the Boldness to hope, that he may be admitted into the Number of your Correspondents.

'I have often wondered to hear Men of good Sense' and good Nature profess a Dislike to Musick, when, at the same Time, they do not scruple to own, that it has the most agreeable and improving Insluences over their Minds: It seems to me an unhappy. Contradiction, that those Persons should have an Indifference for an Art, which raises in them such a Variety of sub-

'lime Pleasures.
'However, though some sew, by their own or the unreasonable Prejudices of others, may be led into a Distaste of those musical Societies which are erected merely for Entertainment, yet sure I may venture to say, that no one can have the least Reason for Disastetion to that solemn kind of Melody which consists of the Praises of our Creator.

You have, I presume, already prevented me in an Argument upon this Occasion (which some Divines have successfully advanced upon a much greater)

' that

' in all other Parts of their OEconomy.

. I know there are not wanting some who are of Dpinion that the pompous kind of Musick which is · in Use in foreign Churches is the most excellent, as it most affects our Senses. But I am swayed by my Judgment to the Modesty which is observed in the " musical Part of our Devotions. Methinks there is fomething very laudable in the Custom of a Voluntary before the first Lesson; by this we are supposed to be prepared for the Admission of those divine Truths, which we are shortly to receive. We are " then to cast all Worldly Regards from off our Hearts, all Tumults within are then becalmed, and there ' should be nothing near the Soul but Peace and Tranquility. So that in this short Office of Praise, the Man is raifed above himself, and is almost lost already a-" midst the Joys of Futurity.

I have heard some nice Observers frequently commend the Policy of our Church in this Particular, that it leads us on by such easy and regular Metheds, that we are perfectly deceived into Piety. When the Spirits begin to languish (as they too often do) with a constant Series of Petitions, she takes Care to allow them a pious Respite, and relieves them with the Raptures of an Anthem. Nor can we doubt that the sublimest Poetry, softned in the most moving Strains of Musick, can never fail of humbling or exalting the Soul to any Pitch of Devotion. Who can hear the Terrors of the Lord of Hosts described in the most expressive Melody, without being awed into a Veneration? Or who can hear the kind and endearing Attributes of a merciful Father, and not be softned into

· Love towards him!

As the rifing and finking of the Passions, the casting fost or noble Hints into the Soul, is the natural Privilege of Musick in general, so more particularly

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icuarly · larly of that kind which is employed at the Altar. . Those Impressions which it leaves upon the Spirits are more deep and lasting, as the Grounds from which it receives its Authority are founded more upon Reafon. It diffuses a Calmness all around us, it makes us drop all those vain or immodest Thoughts which would be an hindrance to us in the Performance of that great Duty of Thanksgiving, which, as we are informed by our Almighty Benefactor, is the most acceptable Return which can be made for those infinite Stores of Bleffings which he daily condescends to ' pour down upon his Creatures. When we make use of this pathetical Method of addressing our selves to ' him, we can scarce contain from Raptures! The Heart is warmed with a Sublimity of Goodness! We ' are all Piety and all Love!

'How do the bleffed Spirits rejoice and wonder to behold unthinking Man proftrating his Soul to his dread Sovereign in such a Warmth of Piety as they

· themselves might not be ashamed of !

'I shall close these Resections with a Passage taken out of the Third Book of Milton's Paradise Lost, where those harmonious Beings are thus nobly described.

Then Crown'd again, their Gold'n Harps they took, Harps ever tun'd, that glittering by their side Like Quivers hung, and with Preamble sweet Of charming Symphony they introduce The sacred Song, and waken Raptures high:
No one exempt, no Voice but well could join Melodious Part, such Concord is in Heav'n.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

THE Town cannot be unacquainted, that in divers Parts of it there are vociferous Sets of Men who are called Rattling Clubs; but what shocks me most is, they have now the Front to invade the Church and institute these Societies there, as a Clan of them have in late times done, to such a Degree of Insolence, as has given the Partition where they reside in a Church near one of the City Gates, the

Denomination of the Rattling Pew. These gay Fel. lows, from humble Lay Professions, set up for Cri.

ticks without any Tincture of Letters or Reading, and have the Vanity to think they can lay hold of

fomething from the Parson, which may be formed

into Ridicule.

IT is needless to observe, that the Gentlemen who every Sunday have the hard Province of instructing these. Wretches in a Way they are in no present Disposition to

take, have a fixt Character for Learning and Eloquence,

onot to be tainted by the weak Efforts of this contemp.

tible Part of their Audiences. Whether the Pulpit is ta.

ken by these Gentlemen, or any Strangers their Friends, the way of the Club is this: If any Sentiments are

delivered too Sublime for their Conception; if any un.

common Topick is entered on, or one in use new mo-

dified with the finest Judgment and Dexterity; or any

controverted Point be never fo elegantly handled; in

fhort whatever surpasses the narrow Limits of their

Theology, or is not fuited to their Tafte, they are all

immediately upon their Watch, fixing their Eyes upon

each other, with as much Warmth as our Gladiators of

· Hockley in the Hole, and waiting like them for a Hit; if one touches, all take Fire, and their Noddles in-

Antly meet in the Centre of the Pew; then, as by

beat of Drum, with exact Discipline, they rear up

into a full length of Stature, and with odd Looks and

Gesticulations confer together in so loud and clamorous

a Manner, continued to the close of the Discourse,

and during the after-Pfalm, as is not to be filenced but

by the Bells. Nor does this suffice them, without aim-

ing to propagate their Noise through all the Church,

by Signals given to the adjoining Seats, where others

defigned for this Fraternity are fometimes placed upon

Tryal to receive them.

* THE Folly as well as Rudeness of this Practice is in nothing more conspicuous than this, that all that follows in the Sermon is lost; for whenever our

Sparks take alarm, they blaze out and grow fo Tumultuous that no After-Explanation can avail, it being

impossible for themselves or any near them to give an Account

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Account thereof. If any Thing really Novel is advanced, how averse soever it may be to their way of thinking, to fay nothing of Duty, Men of less Levity than these would be led by a natural Curiosity to hear the whole.

LAUGHTER, where Things Sacred are transafted, is far less pardonable than whining at a Conventicle; the last has at least a Semblance of Grace, and where the Affectation is unfeen may possible imprint wholesome Lessons on the Sincere; but the first has no Excuse, breaking through all the Rules of Order and · Decency, and manifesting a Remissness of Mind in. those important Matters, which require the ftrictest · Composure and Steadiness of Thought;

the greatest Folly in the World.

' I stall not here enter upon the Veneration due to the Sanctity of the Place, the Reverence owing the ' Minister, or the Respect that so great an Assembly as a 4 whole Parish may justly claim. I shall only tell them, ' that as the Spanish Cobler, to reclaim a profligate Son, bid him bave some regard to the Dignity of his Family, fo they as Gentlemen (for we Citizens assume to be ' fuch one Day in a Week) are bound for the future to ' repent of, and abstain from the gross Abuses here men-' tiened, whereof they have been guilty in Contempt of Heaven and Earth, and contrary to the Laws in this · Case made and provided.

I am, SIR,

Your very bumble Servant,

R. M.

No. 631. Friday, December 10.

Simplex Munditiis -

Hor.

Had Occasion to go a few Miles out of Town, some Days fince, in a Stage-Coach, where I had for my Fellow-Travellers a dirty Beau, and a pretty young Quaker-Woman. Having no Inclination to talk much at that Time, I placed my felf backward, with a Defign to furvey them, and pick a Speculation out of my two Companions. Their different Figures were fufficient of themselves to draw my Attention. The Gentleman was dreffed in a Suit, the Ground whereof had been black, as I perceived from fome few Spaces, that had escaped the Powder, which was incorporated with the greatest Part of his Coat : His Perriwig, which cost no small Sum, was after so slovenly a manner cast over his Shoulders, that it feemed not to have been combed fince the Year 1712; his Linen, which was not much concealed, was daubed with plain Spanish from the Chin to the lowest Button, and the Diamond upon his Finger (which naturally dreaded the Water) put me in mind how it sparkled amidst the Rubbish of the Mine, where it was first discovered. On the other Hand, the pretty Quaker appeared in all the Elegance of Cleanness. Not a Speck was to be found on her. A clear, clean oval Face, just edged about with little thin Plaits of the purest Cambrick, received great Advantages from the Shade of her black Hood; as did the Whiteness of her Arms from that sobercoloured Stuff, in which the had cloathed herfelf. The Plainness of her Dress was very well fuited to the Simplicity of her Phrases; all which put together, though they could not give me a great Opinion of her Religion, they did of her Innocence.

No. 6

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I migagreeab it is an Vices, tent wi leave to the thi Purity ments:

of Cust being a live in the first us muc This Adventure occasioned my throwing together a few Hints upon Cleanliness, which I shall consider as one of Half-Virtues, as Aristotle calls them, and shall recommend it under the three following Heads. As it is a Mark of Politeness: As it produces Love; and as it bears

Analogy to Purity of Mind.

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First, I T is a Mark of Politeness. It is universally agreed upon, that no one, unadorned with this Virtue, can go into Company without giving a manifest Offence. The easier or higher any one's Fortune is, this Duty rises proportionably. The different Nations of the World are as much distinguished by their Cleanliness, as by their Arts and Sciences. The more any Country is civilized, the more they consult this Part of Politeness. We need but compare our Ideas of a Female Hottentot and an English Beauty, to be satisfied of the Truth of what hath been advanced.

In the next Place, Cleanliness may be said to be the Foster-Mother of Love. Beauty indeed most commonly produces that Passion in the Mind, but Cleanliness preserves it. An indifferent Face and Person, kept in perpetual Neatness, hath won many a Heart from a pretty Slattern. Age itself is not unamiable, while it is preserved clean and unsullied: Like a Piece of Metal constantly kept smooth and bright, we look on it with more Pleasure than on a new Vessel that is canker'd with Rust.

I might observe farther, that as Cleanliness renders us agreeable to others, so it makes us easy to ourselves; that it is an excellent Preservative of Health; and that several Vices, destructive both to Mind and Body are inconsistent with the Habit of it. But these Reslections I shall leave to the Leisure of my Readers, and shall observe in the third Place, that it bears a great Analogy with Purity of Mind, and naturally inspires refined Sentiments and Passions.

W E find from Experience, that through the Prevalence of Custom, the most vicious Actions lose their Horror, by being made familiar to us. On the contrary, those who live in the Neigbourhood of good Examples, sly from the first Appearance of what is shocking. It fares with us much after the same Manner, as to our Ideas. Our

Senfes,

Senses, which are the Inlets to all the Images conveyed to the Mind, can only transmit the Impression of such things as usually surround them. So that pure and unfullied Thoughts are naturally suggested to the Mind, by those Objects that perpetually encompass us, when

they are beautiful and elegant in their kind.

In the East, where the Warmth of the Climate makes Cleanliness more immediately necessary than in colder Countries, it is made one Part of their Religion: The Jewish Law, (and the Mahometan, which in some things copies after it) is filled with Bathings, Purifications, and other Rites of the like Nature. Though there is the above-named convenient Reason to be assigned for these Ceremonies, the chief Intention undoubtedly was to typify inward Purity and Cleanness of Heart by those outward Washings. We read several Injunctions of this Kind in the Book of Deutorenomy, which confirm this Truth; and which are but ill accounted for by saying, as some do, that they were only instituted for Convenience in the Desart, which otherwise could not have been habitable for so many Years.

I shall conclude this Essay, with a Story which I have somewhere read in an Account of Mahometan Supersti-

tions.

A Dervise of great Sanctity one Morning had the Missortune as he took up a Christal Cup, which was conserated to the Prophet, to let it fall upon the Ground, and dash it in Pieces. His Son coming in, some time after, he stretched out his Hands to bless him, as his Manner was every Morning; But the Youth going out stumbled over the Threshold and broke his Arm. As the old Man wondered at these Events, a Caravan passed by in its way from Mecca. The Dervise approach'd it to beg a Blessing; but as he stroak'd one of the Holy Camels, he received a Kick from the Beast that sorely bruised him. His Sorrow and Amazement increased upon him, till he recollected that through Hurry and Inadvertency he had that Morning come abroad without washing his Hands.

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No. 632. Monday, December 13.

Ex lebo numerum, reddarque tenebris. Virg.

THE Love of Symmetry and Order, which is natural to the Mind of Man, betrays him fometimes into very whimfical Fancies. This noble Principle, says a French Author, loves to amuse it self on the most trifling Occasions. You may see a profound Philosopher, says he, walk for an Hour together in his Chamber, and industriously treading, at every Step, upon every other Board in the Flooring. Every Reader will recollect feveral Inflances of this Nature without my Assistance. I think it was Gregorio Leti who had published as many Books as he was Years old; which was a Rule he had laid down and punctually observed to the Year of his Death. It was, perhaps, a Thought of the like Nature which determined Homer himself to divide each of his Poems into as many Books, as there are Letters in the Greek Alphabet. Herodotus has in the fame manner adapted his Books to the Number of the Muses, for which Reason many a learned Man hath wished there had been more than Nine of that Sifterhood.

SEVERAL Epic Poems have religiously followed Virgil as to the Number of his Books; and even Milton is thought by many to have changed the Number of his Books from ten to twelve, for no other Reason, as Cowley tells us, it was his Design, had he finished his Davideis, to have also imitated the Eneid in this Particular. I believe every one will agree with me, that a Persection of this Nature hath no Foundation in Reason; and, with due Respect to these great Names, may be looked upon as something whimsical.

I mention these great Examples in Defence of my Bookseller, who occasioned this eighth Volume of Spec. tators, because, as he said, he thought seven a very odd Number. On the other Side, several grave Reasons were urged on this important Subject; as in particular, that seven was the precise Number of the wife Men, and that the most beautiful Constellation in the Heavens was composed of leven Stars. This he allowed to be true, but still insisted, that seven was an odd Number; fuggesting at the same Time that if he were provided with a sufficient Stock of leading Papers, he should find Friends ready enough to carry on the Work. Having by this means got his Vessel launched and set afloat, he hath committed the Steerage of it, from Time to Time, to fuch as he thought capable of conducting it.

THE Close of this Volume, which the Town may now expect in a little Time, may possibly ascribe each

Sheet to its proper Author.

IT were no hard Task to continue this Paper a confiderable Time longer, by the help of large Contributi-

ons fent from unknown Hands.

I cannot give the Town a better Opinion of the SPECTATOR'S Correspondents, than by publishing the following Letter, with a very fine Copy of Verses upon a Subject perfectly new.

Mr. SPECTATOR, Dublin, Nov. 30. 1714.

You lately recommended to your Female Readers, the good old Custom of their Grandmothers, who used to lay out a great Part of their Time in Needle-work: I entirely agree with you in your Sentiments, and think it would not be of less Advantage to themselves, and their Posterity, than to the Reputation of many of their good Neighbours, if they past many of those Hours in this innocent Entertainment, which are lost at the Tea Table. I would, however, humbly offer to your Consideration, the Case of the poetical Ladies: who, though they may be willing to take any Advice given them by the Spectrator, yet can't so easily quit their Pen and Ink,

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as you may imagine. Pray allow them, at least now and then, to indulge themselves in other Amusements of Fancy, when they are tired with stooping to their Tapestry. There is a very particular kind of Work, which of late several Ladies here in our Kingdom are very fond of, which seems very well adapted to a poetical Genius: It is the making of Grotto's. I know a Lady who has a very beautiful one, composed by her self, nor is there one Shell in it not stuck up by her own Hands. I here send you a Poem to the fair Architect, which I would not offer to herself, till I knew whether this Method of a Lady's passing her Time were approved of by the British Spectator, which with the Poem, I submit to your Censure, who am,

Your conflant Reader,

and humble Servant,

A. B.

To Mrs. _____ on her Grotto.

A Grotto so compleat, with such Design,
What Hands, Calypso cou'd have form'd but thine?
Each chequer'd Pebble, and each shining Shell,
So well proportion'd, and dispos'd so well,
Surprizing Lustre from thy Thought seceive,
Assuming Beauties more than Nature gave.
To her their various Shapes and glossy Hue,
Their curious Symmetry they owe to you.
Not fam'd Amphion's Lute, whose powerful Call
Made willing Stones dance to the Theban Wall,
In more harmonious Ranks cou'd make them fall.
Not Evining Cloud a brighter Arch can show,
Nor richer Colours paint the heav'nly Bow.

Where can unpolish'd Nature boast a Piece, In all her mossy Cells exact as this? At the gay parti-colour'd Scene we start, For chance too regular, too rude for Art.

Charm'a

Charm'd with the Sight, my ravish'd Breast is sir'd With Hints like those which ancient Bards inspir'd; All the seign'd Tales by Superstition told, All the bright Train of fabled Nymphs of old, Th' Enthusiastick Muse believes are true, Thinks the Spot sacred, and its genius you. Lost in wild Rapture, wou'd she fain disclose, How by Degrees the pleasing Wonder rose: Industrious in a faithful Verse to trace The various Beauties of the lovely Place; And while she keeps the glowing Work in View, Tho' ev'ry Maze thy artful Hand pursue.

Oh were I equal to the bold Design,
Or cou'd I boast such happy Art as thine!
That cou'd rude Shells in such sweet Order place,
Give common Objects such uncommon Grace!
Like them my well chose Words in every Line,
As sweetly temper'd shou'd as sweetly shine.
So just a Fancy shou'd my Numbers warm,
Like the gay Piece should the Description charm.
Then with superier Strength my Voice I'd raise,
The echoing Grotto shou'd approve my Lays,
Pleas'd to restect the well-sung Founder's Praise.





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No. 633. Wednesday, December 15.

Omnia profecto cum se à cælestibus rebus reservet ad bumanas, excelsius magnificentius que & dicet & sentiet. Cicer.

THE following Discourse is printed, as it came to my Hands, without Variation.

Cambridge, Dec. 12. T was a very common Enquiry among the Ancients why the Number of excellent Orators, under all the Encouragements the most flourishing States could give them, fell fo far short of the Number of those who excelled in all other Sciences. A Friend of mine used merrily to apply to this Case an Ob-' fervation of Herodotus, who fays, That the most ' useful Animals are the most fruitful in their Generation; whereas the Species of those Beasts that are ferce and mischievous to Mankind are but scarcely ' continued. The Historian instances in a Hare, which 'always either breeds or brings forth; and a Liones, which brings forth but once, and then lofes all ' Power of Conception But, leaving my Friend to ' his Mirth, I am of Opinion, that in these latter Ages 'we have greater Cause of Complaint than the An-' tients had. And fince that folemn Festival is ap-' proaching, which calls for all the Power of Oratory, ' and which affords as noble a Subject for the Pulpit ' as any Revelation has taught us, the Defign of this ' Paper shall be to show, that our Moderns have ' greater Advantages towards true and folid Eloquence, ' than any which the celebrated Speakers of Antiquity ' enjoy'd.

'THE first great and substantial Difference, is that, their Common-Places, in which almost the whole 'Force

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Attentio VOL.

No.633. The SPECTATOR. · Force of Amplification confifts, were drawn from the Profit or Honesty of the Action, as they regarded only this present State of Duration. But Christianity as it exalts Morality to a greater Perfection, as it brings the Confideration of another Life into the 4 Question, as it proposes Rewards and Punishments of a higher Nature, and a longer Continuance, is more adapted to affect the Minds of the Audience, · naturally inclined to purfue what it imagines its greatest Interest and Concern. If Pericles, as Historians report, could shake the firmest Resolutions of his Hearers, and fet the Passions of all Greece in a Ferment, when the present Welfare of his Country, or the Fear of hoffile Invasions, was the Subject: What may be

· expected from that Orator, who warns his Audience, · against those Evils which have no Remedy, when once undergone, either from Prudence or Time? As " much greater as the Evils in a Future State are than

these at present, so much are the Motives to Persuafion under Christianity greater than those which meer

moral Confiderations could supply us with. But what I now mention relates only to the Power of moving the Affections. There is another Part of Eloquence,

which is indeed its Master-piece; I mean the Marvellous or Sublime. In this the Christian Orator, has

the Advantage beyond Contradiction. Our Ideas are · fo infinitely enlarged by Revelation, the Eye of Reafon has fo wide a Prospect into Eternity, the No-

' tions of a Deity are so worthy and refined, and the Accounts we have of a State of Happiness or Misery fo clear and evident, that the Contemplation of such

Objects will give our Discourse a noble Vigour, an invincible Force, beyond the Power of any human

" Confideration. Tully requires in his perfect Orator fome Skill in the Nature of heavenly Bodies, be-

cause, says he, his Mind will become more exten-' five and unconfined; and when he descends to treat

of human Affairs, he will both think and write in a more exalted and magnificent Manner. For the

fame Reason that excellent Master would have recom-" mended the Study of those great and glorious Myste-

ries which Revelation has discovered to us, to which the noblest Parts of this System of the World, are as much inferior, as the Creature is less excellent than its Creator. The wifest and most knowing among the Heathens had very poor and imperfect Notions of a future State. They had indeed some uncertain Hopes either receiv'd by Tradition, or gather'd by Reason, that the Existence of virtuous Men would not be determined by the Separation of Soul and Body: But they either difbelieved a future State of Punishment and Misery, or, upon the same Account that Apelles painted Antigonus with one Side only towards the Spectator, that the Loss of his Eye might not cast a Blemish upon the whole ' Piece; fo these represented the Condition of Man in its fairest View, and endeavoured to conceal what they thought was a Deformity to human Nature I have often observed, that whenever the above-mentioned Orator in his philosophical Discourses is led by his Argument to the Mention of Immortality, he feems like one awaked out of Sleep, rous'd and alarm'd with the Dignity of the Subject, he stretches his Imagination to conceive fomething uncommon, and with the Greatness of his Thoughts, casts, as it were, a Glory round the Sentence; Uncertain, and unsettled as he was, he seems fired with the Contemplation of it. And nothing but fuch a glorious Prospect could have forced so great a Lover of Truth, as he was, to declare his Resolution never to part with his Perfuasion of Immortality, though it should be proved to be an erroneous one. But had he lived to fee all that Christianity has brought to Light, how would he have lavished out all the Force of Eloquence in those noblest Contemplations which human Nature is capable of, the Refurrection and the Judgment that follows it? How had his Breast glowed with Pleasure, when the whole Compais of Futurity lay open and exposed to his View? How would his Imagination have hurried him on in the Pursuit of the Mysteries of the Incarnation? How would he have enter'd, with the Force of Lightning, into the Affections of his Hearers, and fixed their Attention, in fpite of all the Opposition of corrupt Na-Vol. VIII.

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ture, upon those glorious Themes which his Eloquence hath painted in such lively and lasting Colours.

THIS Advantage Christians have; and it was with no small Pleasure I lately met with a Fragment of Lon. ginus, which is preferv'd, as a Testimony of that Critick's Judgment, at the Beginning of a Manuscript of the New Testament in the Vatican Library. After that Author has number'd up the most celebrated Orators among the Grecians, he fays, Add to thefe Paul of Tarfus, the Patron of an Opinion not yet fully prowed. As a Heathen, he condemns the Christian Religion; and, as an impartial Critick, he judges in favour of the Promoter and Preach. er of it. To me it feems, that the latter Part of his Judgment adds great Weight to his Opinion of St. Paul's Abilities, fince, under all the Prejudice of Opinions directly opposite, he is constrained to acknowledge the Merit of that Apostle. And no doubt, such as Longinus describes St. Paul, such he appeared to the Inhabitants of those Countries which he visited and blessed with those Doctrines he was divinely commissioned to preach. Sacred Story gives us, in one Circumstance, a convincing Proof of his Eloquence, when the Men of Lyftra called him Mercury, because he was the chief Speaker, and would have paid Divine Worship to him, as to the God who invented and prefided over Eloquence. This one Account of our Apostle, sets his Character, consider'das an Orator only, above all the celebrated Relations of the Skill and Influence of Demosthenes, and his Contempora-Their Power in Speaking was admired, but still it was thought human: Their Eloquence warmed and ravished the Hearers, but still it was thought the Voice of Man, not the Voice of God. What Advantage then had St. Paul above those of Greece or Rome? I confess! can ascribe this Excellence to nothing but the Power of the Doctrines he delivered, which may have still the fame Influence on the Hearers; which have still the · Power, when preached by a skilful Orator, to make w break out in the same Expressions, as the Disciples who * met our Saviour in their Way to Emmaus, made use of; Did not our Heart burn within us, when he talked to usby

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the Way, and while he opened to us the Scriptures ? I m. 37 be thought bold in my Judgment by some; but I must affirm, That no one Orator has left us fo visible Marks and Footsteps of his Eloquence as our Apostle. It may perhaps be wondered at, that in his Reasonings upon Idolatry at Athens, where Eloquence was born and flourished, he confines himself to strict Argument only; but my Reader may remember what many Authors of the best Credit have assured us, That all Attempts upon the Affections and Strokes of Oratory were expresly forbidden, by the Laws of that Country, in Courts of Judicature. His Want of Eloquence therefore here, was the Effect of his exact Conformity to the Laws. But his Discourse on the Resurrection to the Corinthians, his Harangue before Agrippa upon his own Conversion, and the Necessity of that of others, are truly great and may serve as full Examples to those excellent Rules for the Sublime, which the best of Criticks has left us. The Sum of all this Discourse is, That our Clergy have no farther to look for an Example of the Perfection they may arrive at, than to St. Paul's Harangues; that when he, under the Want of several Advantages of Nature, (as he himself tells us) was heard, admired, and made a Standard to succeeding Ages by the best Judge of a different Persuasion in Religion, I say, our Clergy may learn, That, however instructive their Sermons are, they are capable of receiving a great Addition; which St. Paul has given them a noble Example of, and the Christian Religion has furnished them with certain Means of attaining to.





No. 634. Friday, December 17.

" באמצוקשי שני שנים בר אוקמ שנשים

Socrates apud Xen.

I T was the common Boast of the Heathen Philosophers, that by the Efficacy of their several Doctrines, they made Human Nature resemble the Divine. How much mistaken soever they might be in the several Means they proposed for this End, it must be owned that the Design was great and glorious The finest Works of Invention and Imagination are of very little Weight, when put in the Balance with what resines and exalts the rational Mind. Longinus excuses Homer very handsomely, when he says, the Poet made his Gods like Men, that he might make his Men appear like the Gods: But it must be allowed that several of the ancient Philosophers acted as Cicero wishes Homer had done; they endeavoured rather to make Men like Gods, than Gods like Men,

ACCORDING to this general Maxim in Philosophy, fome of them have endeavoured to place Men in such a State of Pleasure or Indolence at least, as they vainly imagin'd the Happiness of the Supreme Being to consist in. On the other Hand, the most virtuous Sect of Philosophers have created a chimerical wise Man, whom they made exempt from Passion and Pain, and thought it

enough to pronounce him All-fufficient.

This last Character, when divested of the Glare of Human Philosophy that surrounds it, signifies no more, than that a good and wise Man should so arm himself with Patience, as not yield tamely to the Violence of Passion and Pain; that he should learn so to suppress and contract his Desires as to have few Wants; and that he should

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Romans. IsH this Purp ving rep der the C Ariving ing Alex Marcus . Heroes o and, in advantag dazzled Mercury, that influ their Liv his Aim to gain t govern w of Alexa length, v great Mo tate the (the most Marcus . felf, decla voured t

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should cherish so many Virtues in his Soul, as to have a

perpetual Source of Pleasure in himself.

THE Christian Religion requires, that, after having framed the best Idea, we are able, of the Divine Nature, it should be our next Care, to conform our selves to it; as far as our Imperfectious will permit. I might mention several Passages in the sacred Writings on this Head, to which I might add many Maxims and wise Sayings of Moral Authors among the Greeks and Romans.

I SHALL only instance a remarkable Passage to this Purpose, out of Julian's Casars. The Emperor, having represented all the Roman Emperors, with Alexander the Great, as passing in Review before the Gods, and firiving for the Superiority, lets them all drop, excepting Alexander, Julius Cafar, Augustus Cafar, Trajan, Marcus Aurelius, and Constantine. Each of these great Heroes of Antiquity lays in his Claim for the upper Place; and, in order to it, fets forth his Actions after the most advantageous Manner. But the Gods, instead of being dazzled with the Lustre of their Actions, enquire, by Mercury, into the proper Motive and governing Principle that influenced them, throughout the whole Series of their Lives and Exploits. Alexander tells them, That his Aim was to conquer: Julius Cafar, That his was to gain the highest Post in his Country: Augustus, To govern well: Trajan; That his was the same as that of Alexander, namely, To conquer. The Question, at length, was put to Marcus Aurelius, who reply'd, with great Modesty, That it had always been his Care to imitate the Gods. This Conduct feems to have gained him the most Votes and best Place in the whole Assembly. Marcus Aurelius being afterwards asked to explain himfelf, declares, That, by imitating the Gods, he endeavoured to imitate them in the Use of his Understanding, and of all other Faculties; and, in particular, That It was always his Study to have as few Wants as possible in himself, and to do all the Good he could to others.

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A M O N C the many Methods by which revealed Religion has advanced Morality, this is one, That it has given us a more just and perfect Idea of that Being whom every reasonable Creature ought to imitate. The young Man, in a Heathen Comedy, might justify his Lewdness by the Example of Jupiter, as, indeed, there was scarce any Crime that might not be countenanced by those Notions of the Deity which prevailed among the common People in the Heathen World. Revealed Religion sets forth a proper Object for Imitation, in that Being who is the Pattern, as well as the Source of all spiritual Perfection.

WHILE we remain in this Life, we are subject to innumerable Temptations, which, if listen'd to, will make us deviate from Reason and Goodness, the only Things wherein we can imitate the Supreme Being. In the next Life we meet with nothing to excite our Inclinations that doth not deserve them. I shall therefore dismiss my Reader with this Maxim, viz. Our Happiness in this World proceeds from the Suppression of our Defires, but in the next World from the Gratification of them.



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No. 635. Monday, December 20.

Sentio Te sedem Heminum ac Deûm contem plarique st tibi parva (ut est.) ita videtur, bæc cælestia semper Spectato; illa bumana contemnito.

Cicero Somn. Scip.

THE following Essay comes from the ingenious Author of the Letter upon Nowelty, printed in a late Speciator: The Notions are drawn from the Platonick way of Thinking, but as they contribute to raise the Mind, and may inspire noble Sentiments of our own future Grandeur and Happiness, I think it well deserves to be presented to the Publick.

TF the Universe be the Creature of an intelligent Mind, this Mind could have no immediate Regard to himfelf in producing it. He needed not to make Trial of his Omnipotence, to be informed what Effects were within its Reach: The World as existing in his eternal Idea was then as beautiful as now it is drawn forth into Being; and in the immense Abyss of his Essence are contained far brighter Scenes than will be ever fet forth to View; it being impossible that the great Author of Nature should bound his own Power by giving Existence to a System of Creatures so perfect that he cannot improve upon it by any other Exertions of his Almighty Will. Between Finite and Infinite there is an unmeafured Interval not to be filled up in endless Ages; for which Reason, the most excellent of all God's Works must be equally short of what his Power is able to produce as the most imperfect, and may be exceeded with the same Ease.

This Thought hath made some imagine, (what, it must be confest, is not impossible) that the unsathomed space is ever teeming with new Births, the younger

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ftill inheriting a greater Perfection than the elder. But as this doth not fall within my present View, I shall content my felf with taking Notice, that the Confidera. tion now mentioned proves undeniably, that the Ideal Worlds in the divine Understanding yield a Prospect incomparably more ample, various and delightful than any Created World can do: And that therefore as it is not to be supposed that God should make a World mere-Ty of inanimate Matter, however diversified; or inhabited only by Creatures of no higher an Order than Brutes; fo the End for which he defigned his reasonable Offspring is the Contemplation of his Works, the Enjoyment of himself, and in both to be happy, having, to this Purpose, endowed them with correspondent Faculties and Defires. He can have no greater Pleasure from a bare Review of his Works, than from the Survey of his own Ideas, but we may be affured that he is well pleased in the Satisfaction derived to Beings capable of it, and, for whose Entertainment, he hath erected this immense Theatre. Is not this more than an Intimation of our Immortality? Man, who when confidered as on his Probation for a happy Existence hereafter, is the most remarkable Instance of Divine Wisdom; if we cut him off from all Relation to Eternity, is the most wonderful and unaccountable Composition in the whole Creation. He hath Capacites to lodge a much greater Variety of Knowledge than he will be ever Master of, and an unsatisfied Curiofity to tread the fecret Paths of Nature and Providence: But, with this, his Organs, in their present Structure, are rather fitted to serve the Necessities of a vile Body, than to minister to his Understanding; and from the little Spot to which he is chained, he can frame but wandering Gueffes concerning the innumerable Worlds of Light that encompass him, which, tho' in themselves of a prodigious Bigness, do but just glimmer in the remote Spaces of the Heavens; and, when with a great deal of Time and Pains he hath laboured a little way up the steep Ascent of Truth, and beholds with Pity the groveling Multitude beneath, in a Moment, his Foot slides, and he tumbles down headlong into the Grave.

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THINKING on this, I am obliged to believe, in Justice to the Creator of the World, that there is another State when Man shall be better situated for Contemplation, or rather have it in his Power to remove from Object to Object, and from World to World; and be accommodated with Senses, and other Helps, for making the quickest and most amazing Discoveries. How doth fuch a Genius as Sir Isaac Newton, from amidst the Darkness that involves human Understanding, break forth and appear like one of another Species! The vast Machine, we inhabit, lies open to him, he feems not unacquainted with the general Laws that govern it; and while with the Transport of a Philosopher he beholds and admires the glorious Work, he is capable of paying at once a more devout and more rational Homage to his Maker. But alas! how narrow is the Prospect even of such a Mind? and how obscure to the Compais that is taken in by the Ken of an Angel; or of a Soul but newly escaped from its Imprisonment in the Body! For my part, I freely indulge my Soul in the Confidence of its future Grandeur; it pleases me to think that I who know fo fmall a portion of the Works of the Creator, and with flow and painful Steps creep up and down on the Surface of this Globe, shall ere long shoot away with the Swiftness of Imagination, trace out the hidden Springs of Nature's Operations, be able to keep pace with the heavenly Bodies in the Rapidity of their Career, be a Spectator of the long Chain of Events in the natural and moral Worlds, visit the several Apartments of the Creation, know how they are furnished and how inhabited, comprehend the Order, and measure the Magnitudes, and Distances of those Orbs, which to us feem disposed without any regular Defign, and fet all in the same Circle; observe the Dependance of the Parts of each System, and (if our Minds are big enough to grafp the Theory) of the feveral Syttems upon one another, from whence results the Harmony of the Universe. In Eternity a great deal may be done of this kind. I find it of use to cherish this generous Ambition; for besides the secret Refreshment it diffuses through my Soul, it engages me in an Endeavour to improve my Faculties, as well as to exercise them conformably to the Rank I now hold among reasonable Beings, and the Hope I have of being once advanced to a

more exalted Station.

THE other, and that the ultimate End of Man, is the Enjoyment of God, beyond which he cannot form a Wish. Dim at best are the Conceptions we have of the Supreme Being, who, as it were, keeps his Creatures in Suspence, neither discovering, nor hiding himfelf; by which means, the Libertine hath a Handle to dispute his Existence, while the most are content to speak him fair, but in their Hearts prefer every trifling Satisfaction to the favour of their Maker, and ridicule the good Man for the Singularity of his Choice. Will there not a Time come, when the Free-thinker shall see his impious Schemes overturned, and be made a Convert to the Truths he hates; when deluded Mortals shall be convinced of the Folly of their Pursuits, and the few Wife who followed the Guidance of Heaven, and, fcorning the Blandishments of Sense and the fordid Bribery of the World aspired to a celestial Abode, shall stand posfessed of their utmost Wish in the Vision of the Creator? Here the Mind heaves a Thought now and then towards him, and hath some transient Glances of his Prefence: When, in the Instant it thinks it felf to have the fastest hold, the Object eludes its Expectations, and it falls back tired and baffled to the Ground. Doubtless there is some more perfect way of conversing with heawenly Beings. Are not Spirits capable of mutual Intelligence, unless immersed in Bodies, or by their Intervention? Must superior Natures depend on inferior for the main Privilege of sociable Beings, that of converfing with, and knowing each other? What would they have done, had Matter never been created? I fuppose, not have lived in eternal Solitude. As incorporeal Substances are of a nobler Order, so be sure, their manner of Intercourse is answerably more expedite and intimate. This method of Communication, we call Intellectual Vision, as somewhat analogous to the Sense of Seeing, which is the Medium of our Acquaintance with this visible World. And in some such way can God

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God make himself the Object of immediate Intuition to the Bleffed; and as he can, 'tis not improbable that he will. always condescending, in the Circumstances of doing it, to the Weakness and Proportion of finite Minds. Works but faintly reflect the Image of his Perfections. his a Second hand Knowledge: To have a just Idea of him, it may be necessary that we see him as he is, But what is that? 'Tis fomething, that never entered into the Heart of Man to conceive; yet, what we can eafily conceive, will be a Fountain of Unspeakable, of Everlasting Rapture. All created Glories will fade and die away in his Presence. Perhaps it will be my Happiness to compare the World with the fair Exemplar of it in the: Divine Mind; perhaps, to view the original Plan of those wise Designs that have been executing in a long; Thus employed in finding out his Succession of Ages. Works, and contemplating their Author! how shall I fall proftrate and adoring, my Body swallowed up in the Immensity of Matter, my Mind in the Infinitude of his Perfections.





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VOL. VI

The MOTTOES of the

SPECTATORS.

VOL. VIII.

No. 556. So fhines renew'd with Youth the crefted Snake,
Who slept the Winter in a thorny Brake:
And casting off his Slough when Spring returns,
Now looks aloft, and with new Glory burns,
Restor'd with pois'nous Herbs his ardent Sides
Reslect the Sun, and rais'd on Spires he rides,
High o'er the Grass, hissing he rolls along
And banishes by Fits his forky Tongue.

557 For much he fear'd the Tyrians double Tongu'd, And knew the Town.

Whence comes my, Lord, this general Discontent, Why do all loath the State that Chance has sent. Or their own Choice procur'd? but fondly bless Their Neighbours Lots, and praise what they possess.

The weary Soldier now grown old in Wars,
With bleeding Eyes surveys his Wounds and Scars,
Curse that e'er I the Trade of War began,
Ah me! the Merchant is a happy Man.
The Merchant, when the Winds are high,
Cries happy Men at Arms, for why,
You sight and streight comes Death or joyful?
Victory.

The Lawyers wak'd, and rifing with the Sun Cries, happy Farmers that can fleep till Noon. The weary'd Client thinks the Lawyer bleft, And craves a City Life, for that's the best. So many Instances in every state, Would tire e'en bawling Fabius to relate.

Vol. VIII.

dk

The Mottoes of the SPECTATORS. No But to be short; fee I'll adjust the Thing. Suppose some God should say, I'll please you now, Your Lawyer leave the Bar, and take the Plough; Your Soldier too shall be a Merchant made, Go, go, and follow each his wish'd for Trade. How? what? refuse? and discontented still? And yet they may be happy if they will? 559 Now would not this vex Jove, and make him rage? Hath he not reason now to scourge the Age? And angry fwear he'd never hear again? -Reiterates the broken Sounds and strives to fpeak. 561 New moulds her Heart, and blots her former Care, The dead is to the living Lord refign'd, And her new Love possesses all her Mind. 562 That you may be absent while present. 563 A Shadow of a mighty Name____ 564 Let Rules be fixt that may the Rage contain, And punish Faults with a proportion'd pain: And do not flea him, who deferves alone A Whipping for the Fault that he hath done. 565 For God the whole created Mass inspires Through Heav'n and Earth, and Ocean's Depth he throws His Influence round, and kindles as he goes. 566 Love is a kind of Warring. 567 The Cry begun deceives their Gaping Throats. 568 When you rehearse my verse, it is not mine but thine. 569 Kings (thus fays Story) that of old defign'd, To raise a Fav'rite or a Bosom Friend, Did ply him hard with Wine, unmask his thoughts, And shew him naked and with all his Faults. 570 Sonorous Trifles. 571 Beyond Heav'n what wou'd we feek? 572 Physicians promise what belong to them. 573 - They fly in the Face of Correction. 574 He is not number'd with the bleft To whom the Gods large stores have giv'n; But he who of enough possest, Can wisely use the Gifts of Heav'n, Who Fortune's Frowns with Patience bears, And the worst Ills the Gods can send.

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The Mottoes of the SPECTATORS.

No. 575 Nor that there is a Place for Death.

576 Full against these I steer my constant Course, And conquer theirs with a superior Force, Repugnant through the World I pass.

577 Can you bear this, and not be mad your felf?

578 From Man to Beasts at certain Times it roams, Thence back to Man.

579 The Hounds quick Scent.

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ts,

n;

580 So bold a Figure might I try, I'd call't the Palace of the Sky,

581 Amongst what you now read, there are some good, some but so so, but more bad.

582 The Charms of Poetry our Souls bewitch, The Curfe of writing is an endless Itch.

For Slips of Pines may search the Mountain Trees:
And with wild Thyme and Sav'ry plant the plain.
'Till his hard horny Fingers ach with Pain,
And deck with fruitful Trees the Fields around,
And with refreshing Waters deck the Ground.

584 Come feek what Pleasure in our Plaints abound, The Woods, the Fountains, and the flow'ry Ground, Here could I live, and love, and dye with only you,

The Mountain Tops unshorn, the Rock's rejoice,
The lowly Shrubs partake of human Voice,
Assenting Nature, with a gracious Nod,
Proclaims him——

\$86 Whatever Men transact in their Lives, whatever employs their Thoughts, Cares, Eyes, or waking Actions, these are the Subjects of their Dreams.

587 I know thee to the Bottom; from within Thy shallow Centre to the utmost Skin.

588 You say all Goodness and Charity are founded in Weakness.

589 Not thus restrain'd, he with repeated Blows And straining Cords the mighty Trees o'erthrows.

Nor more the fleeting Hours than Tides can stay
But as one Billow the preceding drives,
And as succeeding that a third arrives;
So fly the rolling Years, and so pursue,
Each others, ever changing, ever new. What

9	The Mottoes of the SPECTATORS.
	What once was manifest no more we see,
	Nor what is present shall hereafter be.
	Each Moment is renew'd
FOI	Love is my sportive Theme.
591	Art without Nature.
594	Thus wander Travellers in Woods by Night,
343	By the Moon's doubtful and malignant Light.
En4	He that shall rail against his absent Friends,
394	Or hears them fcandaliz'd, and not defends,
*	Sports with their Fame, and speaks whate'er he can
5	And only to be thought a witty Man;
	Tells Tales, and brings his Friends in Disesteem,
	That Man's a Knave, do thou beware of him;
EDE	Not join quite Opposites, the wild and tame,
273	The Snake and Dove, the Lion and the Lamb
106	My tender Heart with ease receives a Wound.
507	Th' unburthen'd Fancy plays.
598	Will you not now the Pair of Sages praise,
, 40	Who the same end pursu'd by different ways?
	One pity'd, one contemn'd the woful Times,
	One laugh'd at Follies, one lamented Crimes.
200	All Parts resound with Plaints and Fear.
000	Stars of their own, and their own Suns they know.
100	
002	
03	
- 3	My ling'ring Daphnis to my longing Arms.
004	Seek not to know what fated End,
-	The Gods for you or me intend,
	Nor lent to magick Arts an Ear.
105	Their Wildness lose and quitting Nature's Part,
,	Obey the Rules and Discipline of Art.
606	She fings to drive the tedious Hours away,
	And shoots the flying Shuttle through the Loom
07	With Io Pæans charm the joyful Ear,
-	The wisht for Prey is fallen in my Snare.
800	Laughs at the Perjuries of Lovers.
000	The Subject of the Book.
10	Here let my Life, with as much Silence slide,
	As Time that measures it, does glide,
	Nor let the Breath of Infamy or Fame,
	From Town to Town eccho about my Name;
1	Nor

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612 I

The Mottoes of the SPECTATOR S.

Nor let my homely Death embroider'd be, With Scutcheon, or with Elegy. An old Plebeian, let me die, Alas! all then are such as well as I.

Thou'rt hewn from the hardned Entrails of a Rock,
And rough Harcanian Tigers gave thee fuck.

612 Murranus boasting of his Blood that springs, From a long royal Race of Latian Kings, Is by the Trojan from his Chariot thrown, Crush'd by the Weight of an unweildy Stone.

613 Affecting Studies of less noisy Praise.

614 Were I not resolv'd against the Yoke,
Of haples Marriage, never to be curs'd
With second Love, so fatal was my first,
To this one Error I might yield again.

Who well can use the Gifts of Heav'n,
That have the generous Skill to bear,
The hated weight of Poverty;
Who more than Death doth Baseness fear,

Who nobly to defend
Their Country or their Friend,
Embrace their Fate and gladly dye.

616 A Fop is but a Piece of a Man.

Their crooked Horns the Mimallonian Crew,
With Blasts inspired; and Bassaris who slew
The scornful Calf, with Sword advanced on high,
Made from his Neck his haughty Head to sly.
And Mænas, when with Ivy Bridles bound,
She led the spotted Lynx, then Evion rung a round,
Evion from Woods and Floods repairing Eccho's
Sound.

618 'Tis not enough to fetter Words in Rhime,
And make a tedious and a jingling Chime;
'Tis not enough in numerous Feet t' enclose,
Familiar plain Discourse and almost Prose,
To make a Poet ——

And their superfluous Growth with Vigour tame.

Promis'd oft and long foretold.

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TOP

The Mottoes of the SPECTATORS

No. 621 - With wonder fill'd,

The Stars and moving Planets he beheld, Then looking down on the Sun's feeble Ray, Survey'd our dusty, faint, imperfect Day, And under what a Cloud of Night we lay.

622 A Life by stealth.

And let me, through the dark Abys descend;
And let me, through the dark Abys descend;
First let avenging Jove, with Flames from high,
Drive down this Body to the nether Sky,
Condemn'd with Ghosts in endless Night to ly,
Before I break the plighted Faith I gave,
No; he who had my Vows, shall ever have;
For whom I lov'd on Earth, I worship in the
Grave.

624 Sit still and hear those whom proud Thoughts do fwell,

Those that look pale by loving Coin too well, Whom Luxury corrupts, ___

625 Just in her Teens, she thinks of Love.

626 And with sweet Novelty I'll charm your Ear.

And underneath the Beechen Shades alone,
Thus to the Woods and Mountains made his Moan.

628 Still that rouls on and will for ever roul.

Arraign them in the Persons of the Dead.

630 Be filent -

631 - Nicely clean tho' plain. Unaffected Neatness.

632 I will compleat the Number and be gone.

633 When a Man descends from celestial to treat of human Affairs, he will both think and speak in a more exalted and magniscent manner.

634. He who has the fewest Wants, most resembles

the Gods.

635 I know you contemplate both Heav'n and Earth, which if they feem small to you, as they really are, yet still contemplate the celestial, and defpise the terrestrial.

The End of the Mottees to the Eighth Volume,

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